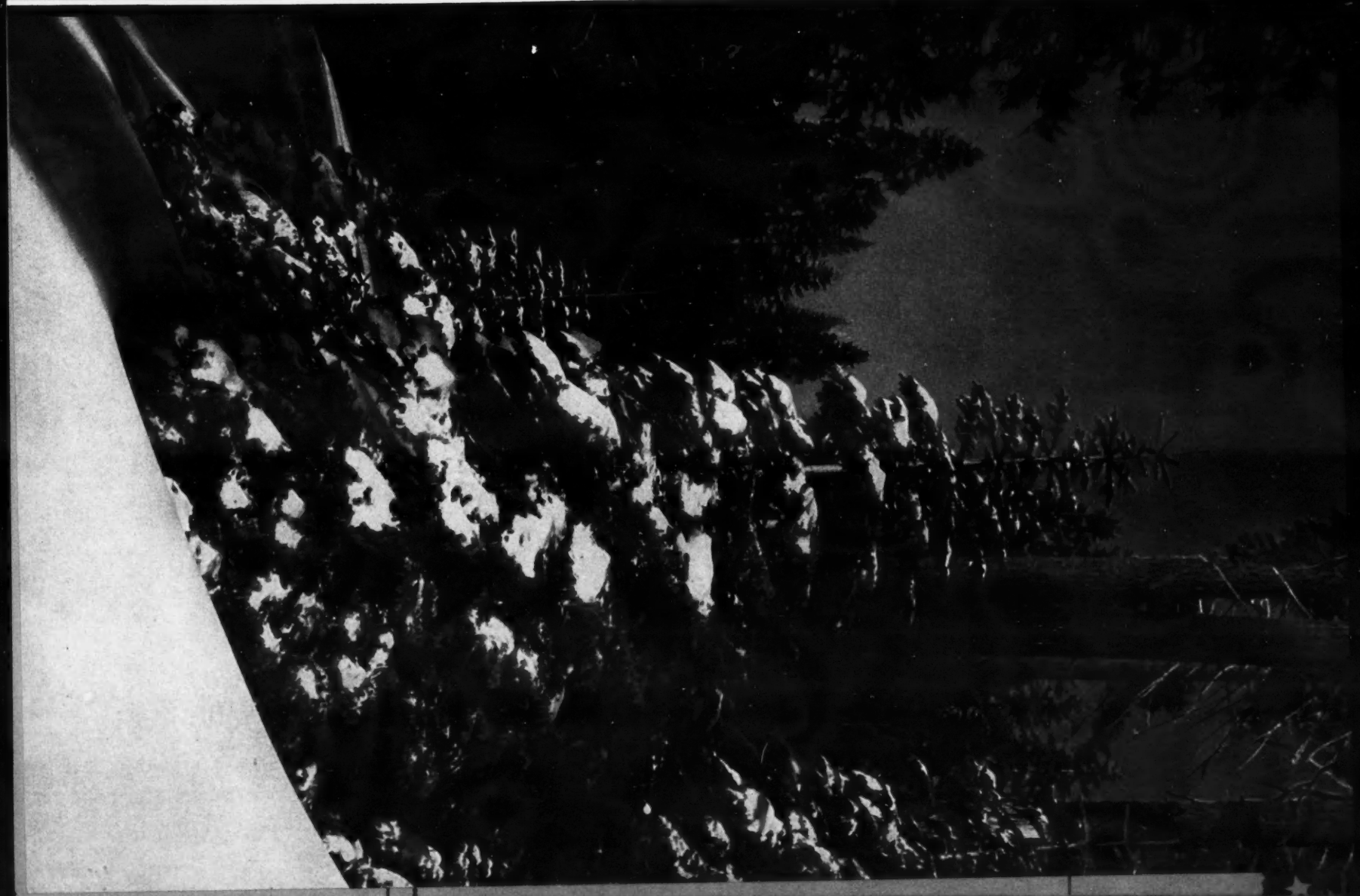
AMERICAN RIFLEMAN



Peter Peepsight gets a Christmas Gift

PETER, HERE'S A LITTLE GIFT FROM ALL THE BOYS AT MUDDY BOTTOM!
GEE, FELLOWS, WHAT HAVE I DONE TO DESERVE ALL THIS?
SURE IS GREAT TO KNOW A BUNCH OF BIG SHOTS LIKE YOU!
HURRY UP AND OPEN IT!
I HAVEN'T MISSED ANYTHING, HAVE I?
KEEP GOING, PETER! YOU'LL MAKE A POSSIBLE!
I'M ALL WRAPPED UP IN THIS JOB!
THIS WILL MAKE A NICE DONATION TO THE WASTE PAPER DRIVE!
WELL, AS THEY SAY, GOOD THINGS ALWAYS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES!
JUST WHAT I WANTED! PETERS POLICE MATCH* 22s! IT SURE WAS WORTH THE TROUBLE! MERRY XMAS, EVERYBODY-- AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR, TOO!
POLICE MATCH

PETERS Rifle and Pistol Ammunition

PETERS CARTRIDGE DIVISION, *Remington Arms Co., Inc., Bridgeport, Conn.*

*"Police Match" is a trade-mark of Peters Cartridge Division.

DU PONT

Merry Christmas From the Staff

The NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Once Again—A TRIPLE VALUE OFFER

USE IT TO *Join* OR *Rejoin* THE NRA

By special arrangement with *Field and Stream* we renew this popular pre-war triple-value offer just in time for Christmas. Use it to join or rejoin the NRA and as a Christmas gift to sportsman friends. (See next page.)

ALL 3 FOR $4.00

1. ***Membership in the greatest Shooters' Club in the world.***
2. ***A Year's Subscription to The American Rifleman.***
3. ***A Year's Subscription to Field and Stream Magazine.***

★ As an annual member you will enjoy the benefits of technical advice, of competition, and of purchasing from the War Department plus partnership in the nation's oldest and one of its greatest sportsman's organizations.

★ THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN is the shooter's magazine devoted entirely to firearms and their use. Known as the "Shooter's Bible" because it ranks editorially as the final authority on all subjects relating to firearms.

★ FIELD AND STREAM is one of the leading outdoor magazines of general interest to sportsmen. You will find its human interest stories plus its Arms and Ammunition Department of special interest.

CUT HERE — CUT HERE

YOUR OWN ACCEPTANCE

Check one for NRA:

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal

Check one for Field & Stream:

☐ New

☐ Renewal

ALL THREE FOR ONLY $4.00

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION
SCOTT CIRCLE, WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

Yes, I want to give myself the Christmas gift as checked, for which I inclose:

☐ $3.00 for a 1 year Membership-Subscription

☐ $5.00 for a 2 year Membership-Subscription

☐ Check here and include $1.00 additional if you wish a year of Field and Stream plus your Membership-Subscription.

★ *SEE OTHER SIDE FOR GIFT ORDERS* ★

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*Address*_____

*City-State*_____

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*Endorser*_____

*Occupation*_____

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I PLEDGE allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands.

I CERTIFY that I am a citizen of the United States and that I am not a member of any organization or group pledged to, or working for, a program aimed at the destruction of our present system of government as established by the Constitution of the United States.

Season's Greetings

Best Expressed to a Shooter
By Giving an NRA Membership

Your Sportsman Friends to whom you elect to give an NRA Membership may also receive a year of Field and Stream if you desire. Just indicate your instructions on this handy gift order and mail right back to us.

Remember your Obligation—Now that Members enjoy again the privilege of purchasing surplus small arms and ordnance equipment—it is imperative that you endorse for membership only U. S. citizens over 18 whose character and patriotic motives are unquestionable.

CUT HERE — CUT HERE

Christmas Gift Order Blank

National Rifle Association · Scott Circle · Washington 6, D. C.

Enter the following Gift Membership-Subscriptions:

—CHECK WHICH—	*Name* _____ *Age* _____	If a Gift—
Your 1st Gift	*Address* _____	*Card should read from:*
☐ Annual Membership, $3.00.	*City-State* _____	_____
☐ NRA with Field and Stream, $4.00.		
Your 2nd Gift	*Name* _____ *Age* _____	If a Gift—
☐ Annual Membership, $3.00.	*Address* _____	*Card should read from:*
☐ NRA with Field and Stream, $4.00.	*City-State* _____	_____
Your 3rd Gift	*Name* _____ *Age* _____	If a Gift—
☐ Annual Membership, $3.00.	*Address* _____	*Card should read from:*
☐ NRA with Field and Stream, $4.00.	*City-State* _____	_____
Your 4th Gift	*Name* _____ *Age* _____	If a Gift—
☐ Annual Membership, $3.00.	*Address* _____	*Card should read from:*
☐ NRA with Field and Stream, $4.00.	*City-State* _____	_____
Your 5th Gift	*Name* _____ *Age* _____	If a Gift—
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☐ NRA with Field and Stream, $4.00.	*City-State* _____	_____

Your NRA Status
Check Which

- ☐ Life Member
- ☐ Annual Member
- ☐ Club Officer
- ☐ Non-member

Person Sending Order:

Name _____

Address _____

City-State _____

☐ Amount enclosed $_____.

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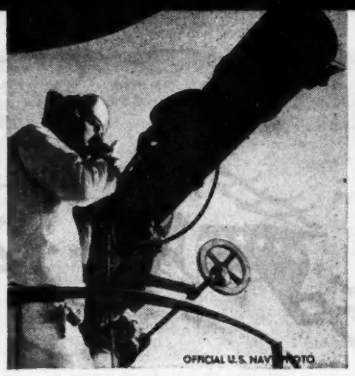

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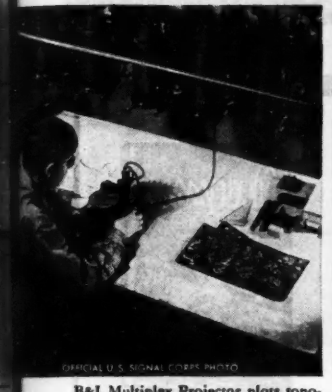

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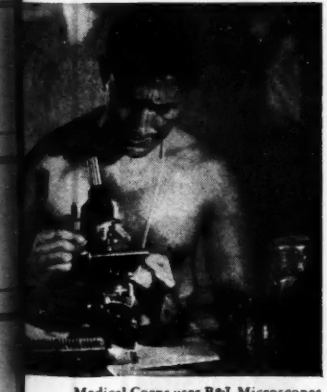
B-29 fliers, too, wear B&L Ray-Ban anti-glare glasses on Tokyo air raids

Coast Guard officer on convoy duty scans horizon with B&L Binocular



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The chapter in this biggest undertaking of history to which we point with pride is headed *Optical Science.* In fire-control instruments that helped make our marksmanship the world's most accurate—in equipment for aerial reconnaissance . . . in improving the vision of fighting men and production workers . . . in control and inspection instruments that make possible the precision demanded of weapons for modern warfare—optical science provided the *Eyes of Victory.*

Much of the optical equipment for war came from Bausch & Lomb—our glass plant was principal supplier of essential optical glass through two wars. The abilities and facilities that since 1941 have been recognized by six successive awards of production "E's," and the improved techniques which this vast experience has taught, now turn to production for peace—to such things as spotting scopes, binoculars, sun glasses. Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., Rochester 2, N. Y.

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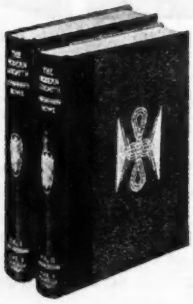

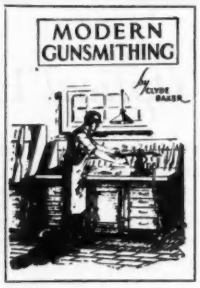

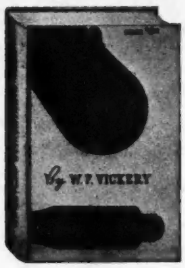

Send remittance with order.

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

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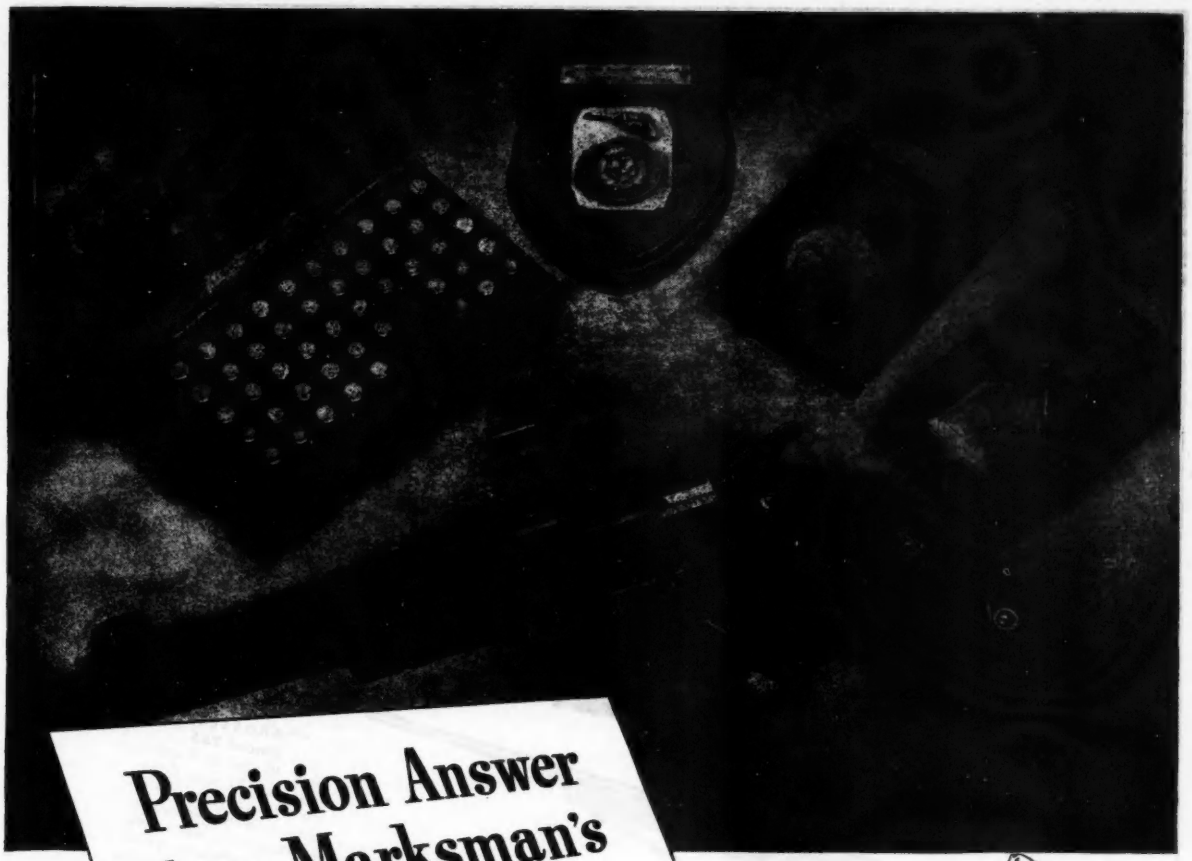

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You may be an old hand at target shooting . . . or a relative newcomer to this increasingly popular sport. Either way — it's a sure case of "love at first sight" when you meet the Smith & Wesson K-22 Masterpiece.

You pick it up and it feels "just right" . . . has the perfect weight and balance to help any shooter line up his sights easily and steadily. In action, it's a "dream" for speed and accuracy.

Introduced in 1940, the K-22 is the most modern .22 target revolver ever made — the only revolver which gives you *all three* of the following features that mean so much to target shooters . . .

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double action, 10 shot .22 cal. revolver. This world famous record holder is truly the answer to a sportsman's dream. Choice of seven grips.
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The AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

Official Journal of The National Rifle Association of America

VOLUME 93 NUMBER 12

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DECEMBER 1945

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COVER

Last year, our Christmas cover reflected a world at war. It was a picture of American soldiers giving gifts to the needy, the children, in an occupied country still deafened by the din of cannon.

But the cannon are stilled now, and Christmas of 1945 falls upon a world solemnly grateful for its new-won peace. This year, in this splendid kodachrome photograph by Josef Muench, we give you—the sportsman's Christmas tree, decorated by Mother Nature herself. Go find it! It's yours; part of the America you helped keep free.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, 1600 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, WASHINGTON 6, D. C. DOMESTIC RATES (NORTH, SOUTH, AND CENTRAL AMERICA) $3.00 A YEAR; $5.00 FOR TWO YEARS. ELSEWHERE, $3.00 A YEAR; $6.50 FOR TWO YEARS. ENTERED AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER, APRIL 1, 1908, AT THE POST OFFICE AT WASHINGTON, D. C., UNDER ACT OF MARCH 3, 1879.

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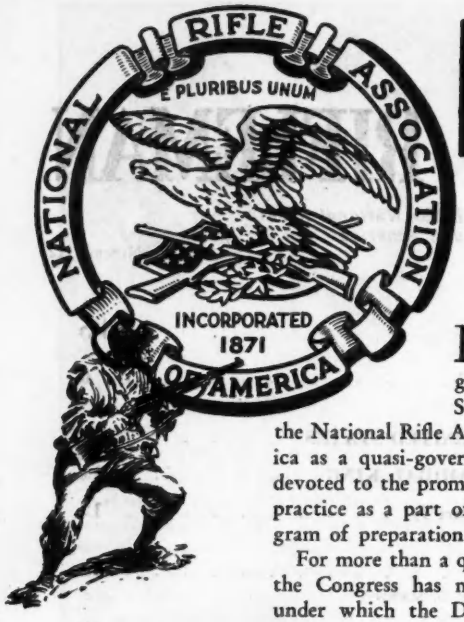
NRA "MISSION



FOR ALMOST half a century the Congress of the United States has recognized the National Rifle Association of America as a quasi-governmental institution devoted to the promotion of small-arms practice as a part of the Nation's program of preparation for war.

For more than a quarter of a century the Congress has made appropriations under which the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, War Department, has rendered direct aid to civilian rifle clubs by issuing to them limited quantities of small arms, ammunition, and range equipment.

Active hostilities have, for the most part, now ceased in America's greatest war. It is proper that we ask ourselves, "Has the National Rifle Association of America accomplished its mission? Has the confidence of the Congress in the Association's program been justified? Have the immeasurable contributions in money, energy, and man-hours from tens of thousands of Americans in all walks of life, building the Association and its program, paid dividends in the hour of our country's need?"

The answer to all those questions is an unqualified "Yes." We can message "Mission accomplished" to Congress and to the American people.

All the statistics will never be collected because ours is a voluntary effort and volunteers are notoriously poor at rendering prompt reports—or any reports at all. But there are some statistics and a wealth of nonstatistical incidents which combine to make a picture of intelligent planning, efficient leadership, and practical results in which we may all take pride.

EARLY PHASES

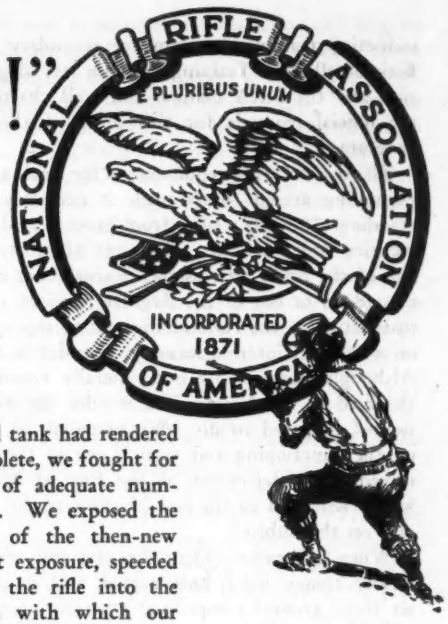
It is not generally realized by the men who fought this war that the NRA is principally responsible for the development of the .22 rifle and pistol as basic training weapons and for their adoption by the Armed Services. The story goes back to the decade preceding World War I, but concrete developments were not to be seen until after the addition of .22 caliber events to the National Match program at Caldwell in 1919. The production of a .22 caliber training rifle at Springfield Armory and the adoption of .22 caliber preliminary instruction schedules in the Armed Services and of .22 caliber qualification courses were the direct result of the Association's continued sponsorship of the small-bore training idea. The space-saving, time-saving qualities of preliminary small-arms training with the .22 resulted in a military wartime demand for .22 caliber rifles which was never fully satisfied up to the war's end.

Another little-realized result of the NRA'S activities since the turn of the century, and particularly during the period immediately following World War I, was the development of a group of American scope sight manufacturers who were among the most critically needed of American producers during the war. The military has always been critical of the Association's competitions for scope-sighted rifles. "Silly, impracticable, waste of time and money which could be better devoted to iron sights events," has been the common complaint. Our encouragement of the use of American scopes in the hunting field and the resultant development of improved American mounts and sights failed to convince the average military mind that military riflemen of this generation could use to advantage either scope sights or specialized training as snipers.

But within thirty days of our initial engagements with the enemy in the Southwest Pacific there was a rush to obtain scopes and mounts and to establish sniper schools. The campaign in North Africa enormously increased the demand from the fighting fronts for snipers and sniper equipment. It was possible to meet a small part of this demand only because the NRA had resisted pressure through the prewar years and had encouraged Americans to develop telescopic sights and mounts. Because the military had refused to be interested during prewar years, American forces were never supplied with either the quantity or quality of sniping equipment or scout-snipers that could have been used to advantage in many theatres. Whatever was accomplished was to the everlasting credit of the foresight displayed from 1920 to 1940 by the NRA and its members in the military and naval services.

A third example of a long-established NRA program paying wartime dividends was the Junior Club Program. Although the Association instituted rifle instruction and competition in secondary schools about 1906, the activity was confined to military schools and to the high schools of a very few large cities until the .22 rifle earned respect as a training and target weapon in the '20's. When, in 1925, the NRA absorbed the Winchester Junior Rifle Corps and established a Junior Division as an operating unit at headquarters, the "teen-age" program became a real nation-wide effort. In 1926, 12,144 boys of high school age received instruction and earned junior qualification awards. By 1930, the number of youngsters participating had increased to 35,855. In 1936, 66,728 junior qualification awards were made and in 1940, the year before Pearl Harbor, the total of annual junior qualifications had reached 90,027. Almost without exception the students who received this small-arms instruction between 1926 and 1940 were within the age group eligible for military service.

ACCOMPLISHED!"



PRE-PEARL HARBOR PHASE

From the outbreak of the war in Europe until we were catapulted into it by the Pearl Harbor attack, there existed a period of emotionalism and turmoil in America. This constituted the "Pre-Pearl Harbor" phase of our preparation for war. It showed conclusively our lack of mental as well as material preparation for the fight that lay ahead. While one segment of our population insisted on business-and-sport-as-usual, the other went hysterically all out on spy hunts, "fifth-column" scares, and the greatest collection of medicine-man "home-defense" schemes ever foisted on a credulous public.

Looking back on this tumultuous period, it now seems that the American Red Cross and the NRA were almost alone in going ahead quietly, intelligently, and aggressively in preparing for the coming holocaust.

We prepared the first two of our series of small-arms and instruction films—of which more will be said later.

We hammered at our clubs to devote more and more time to the conduct of local small-arms firing schools.

The National Guard was called into active service, but neither the War Department nor the states had any definite plan for the organization of home guard units to serve in the states in the absence of the National Guard. We prepared a plan and submitted it to all Governors and Adjutants General.

War plants were going into production all over America and there was widespread fear of sabotage but no single, well-considered plan for plant protection. We prepared a complete plant-protection manual which was commended and recommended by the Provost Marshal General.

Thousands of untrained plant guards were being employed and armed with revolvers which they did not know how to use. We prepared a new revolver instruction manual with an intensive short course of simple instruction for such guards.

Great plans had been made in the world of sports for Pan-American Olympic Games to be held in Argentina in 1942. Inquiries directed to the Administration brought the reply that the Games should be held if at all possible. The NRA was the first member of the Pan-American Olympic Games Committee to officially withdraw from the projected 1942 Games. We took the position that all physically fit men and all available shipping should be devoted to the war effort.

By newspaper releases, circulars, and through the columns of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, we warned against the organization of useless "home guard" units which could never be fitted into a sensible, co-ordinated program of internal security. We tried to prevent the waste of money for the purchase of "uniforms" and for the payment of membership fees in fly-by-night "defense" groups, some of which were no more than rackets.

In a world which had come to believe that the airplane and tank had rendered the infantryman obsolete, we fought for the proper training of adequate numbers of infantrymen. We exposed the structural weakness of the then-new Garand and, by that exposure, speeded the development of the rifle into the truly excellent arm with which our troops went into North Africa.

As we knew would be the case, we were criticized from many quarters as "warmongers," "alarmists," "reactionaries," but we believed that we had our feet firmly planted in realities and we said and did those things that we believed were best for America on the threshold of war. Long before the establishment of the beachhead in Normandy, we had been vindicated from every angle and the prestige of the NRA stood at the highest point in its long history.

THE WAR PHASE

War came at last. It struck with stunning suddenness at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. It struck with such shattering effect that the American people could not be told how serious was their plight.

Mentally and physically unprepared, with no knowledge of the depth of their wounds, Americans still thought of war in the terms of 1898 and 1917. The war would "be over in two years." We could have business and sport as usual. Perhaps because the NRA was closer to the War Department than most organizations, we did not believe these "soft war" ideas.

We immediately discontinued all official competitions except local shoots. We were thus the first to adopt a voluntary ban on "conventions." We prepared an entirely new basic small-arms training program utilizing the .22 rifle not only to teach the principles of small-arms marksmanship but also to teach the construction and functioning of all guns. We designed wall charts with a type of illustration superior to that previously used in rifle instruction. We established standards for instructors and for the equipment to be used, so that all clubs, everywhere, would give a uniform type of basic instruction which would fit smoothly into the .30 caliber instruction the students would receive when they reported for training at military or naval centers. A total of 1,278 communities were serviced by these preinduction training schools during the war.

When the War Department established a formal pre-

induction training program for secondary schools, the NRA Basic Small Arms Training Program was adopted without alteration and the NRA manual and wall charts were accepted as the official manuals for this phase of the War Department program.

The skyrocketing requirements for small arms for our rapidly expanding armed forces made it necessary to recall all outstanding .30 caliber rifles from State Guard and other internal security organizations. Shotguns of all types were issued in lieu of the rifles. It was then learned that no training manuals existed, in or out of the Regular Services, to cover the needed instruction in the functioning and tactical use of the shotguns on which our internal security depended to such a large degree. Although shotguns are not generally considered to be within the field of NRA activities, we did the job that no one else seemed prepared to do. We prepared an instruction manual on the functioning and tactical use of the shotgun which received the endorsement of the Provost Marshal General and which remained to the end of the war the only manual available on this subject.

When it became evident that not only troops of the line but service troops, naval boat parties, and construction battalions, air force ground troops, and even air crews, must be taught individual small-arms marksmanship, the Association received urgent calls from all directions for assistance in procuring officer and warrant officer personnel qualified to conduct small-arms instruction programs. At training centers all over America, on landing strips in North Africa and Italy, in the guerilla-held sections of China and Yugoslavia, NRA members conducted small-arms firing schools.

In all parts of the country, civilian rifle clubs and members in uniform devoted night after night to teaching small-arms marksmanship to Army and Navy reserve officers who were on active duty assignments. In the National Capital city alone, more than seven hundred officers of all grades from Second Lieutenant and Ensign up to Lieutenant Commander and Lieutenant Colonel were given the only small-arms instruction they had ever received by members of our Headquarters Staff and a devoted group of member-volunteers.

A basic training film utilizing the .22 rifle was produced during the war as an adjunct to the Basic Training Course.

The outbreak of hostilities found the Army and Navy without a small-arms training film of any kind. The popularity of the NRA training films which had been distributed prior to the war resulted in many requests for the films at military and naval training centers. Film priorities made it impossible for the Association to meet the demand. Permission was then granted the Army to reproduce in its own film laboratories and to distribute without royalties to the Association whatever number of rifle and pistol training films might be required. These films were used in connection with training programs throughout the world. The technique employed in the NRA films and Basic Training Manual subsequently appeared in the Army training films and visual aids. Although the pistol and revolver assumed constantly increasing importance as the war progressed, the NRA handgun training film remained the only one available on this subject clear through to the end of the war.

An extremely interesting phase of the Association's contribution to the war effort (and a phase concerning which little of record will be found!) was its service as a liaison agent and technical advisor to and between the multitudinous civilian war agencies and sections and bureaus within the War and Navy departments. Handled principally by telephone or over the luncheon table, these off-the-record conversations were hailed by many a harassed Government official or military officer as a godsend in the "nobody-seems-to-know-anything" atmosphere of Washington in 1942 and '43. Members of the Association made their appearance in the most unexpected capacities and locations and the amount of time, money, and frustration saved by the clearinghouse function of the NRA Headquarters Office will never be known. One incident will serve to illustrate many: Not long after Dunkirk, a call from an officer at the British Embassy informed us that it had been suggested by a reader of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN in England that the NRA might be able to supply a copy of an instruction manual covering the Model 1917 .30-'06 Enfield. Several hundred thousand of these rifles had been shipped to England but inquiries at the American War Department had elicited the information that no instruction manuals on the weapon were available. Several weeks had passed in unavailing search for help. If the Association could make available a copy of any Model 1917 instruction material the British would arrange to fly it to England and reproduce the requisite number of copies over there. Within two hours, two hundred copies of the War Department caliber .30 Model 1917 manual were delivered to an astounded and very grateful officer at the British Embassy. It was then that we heard for the first time in British idiom a phrase which later became familiar in more explosive American: "You chaps seem to be the only people in Washington who know how to get things done!"

Our success in obtaining arms, ammunition, and accessories to carry on our instruction program throughout the period of critical shortages was unquestionably due to the friendly feeling toward the Association which had been engendered in the War Department, the War Production Board, and other governmental agencies by our whole-hearted co-operation and constructive efforts over a period of months prior to the time when most of America awoke to the grim seriousness of the war.

WAR'S EFFECT ON CLUBS

There were some unavoidable losses of junior and senior clubs during the war but, in most cases, the clubs suffered or prospered in direct proportion to their appreciation of the problems and opportunities for public service which confronted them. Less than 1 per cent of the Class "A" clubs fell by the wayside. All members of these clubs received THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN every month. They knew what was going on in the shooting world and they maintained their interest in their clubs throughout the war. About 22 per cent of the Class "B" clubs disbanded. The club members had no direct contact with National Headquarters and their interest lagged because it seemed to many of them that the shooting game was stymied by the lack of arms and ammunition on the scale to which they had been accustomed. Many clubs, small before the war, developed into large, prosperous organizations as a result of aggressive development of the Small Arms Firing School plan in their communities. Some clubs, as a result of the interest aroused by their Small Arms Firing Schools, were able to obtain community support for the first time in their existence, with the result that they obtained range sites on municipal park land or greatly

improved facilities on privately owned property. Other clubs, much larger at the beginning of the war but lacking aggressive leadership, saw their membership drift away with no replacements and have just managed to survive.

Over the Nation as a whole, civilian rifle clubs are probably in a better position from the standpoint of membership, community support, and high-grade leadership than ever before. There are more municipal ranges built, building, or planned than at any time in the past.

Reports from 650 of our 2,787 clubs indicate 172 new clubhouses planned or under construction; an expansion of caliber .30 targets from 295 to 776; expansion of small-bore targets from 1,423 to 3,166 and expansion of pistol targets from 745 to 1,907. With only slightly more than 25 per cent of the club reports in hand at this time, it is thus evident that facilities for civilian rifle and pistol practice have been or are being expanded 163 per cent for service rifle, 122 per cent for small bore, and 156 per cent for pistol and revolver. If the clubs which have not yet reported their intentions follow the same pattern as the clubs which have reported there will be more than 300 new and enlarged clubhouses on civilian ranges by the end of 1946.

Approximately 43,324 members of affiliated clubs served in some branch of the armed forces during the war, suffering 3,416 casualties, of which number 989 have been reported killed. These figures are not as complete as we would like to have them because of the impossibility of obtaining reports from club secretaries or from members still in service abroad.

CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR

Reports received up to this time indicate three recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor among our active members. They are:

Brigadier General Merritt A. Edson, Marines
Colonel D. M. Shoup, Marines
Commander John D. Bulkeley, Navy

LEGISLATION DURING AND AFTER THE WAR

During the period of the "Fifth Column" scare, repeated and determined efforts were made by the antigun crowd to secure Federal, state, and municipal legislation which would require the registration of all privately owned firearms.

Several incidents combined to kill this particular type of subversive campaign. One was a Communist Party circular urging their members to "formulate plans for disarming police and loyal troops; break up groups of loyal fighting workmen; destroy, when unable to capture, all tanks, cannon, machine guns, and other weapons which loyal proletariats might use." . . . Another was the introduction of a firearms registration ordinance in the city council at Los Angeles which was supported at the council hearings by no one except the Chief of Police and the Secretary of the Communist Party in Los Angeles. . . . A third was the action of the Communist Party (*after* Russia had been attacked by Germany) in urging its members to take an active part in civilian defense activities as auxiliary police, in communication services and elsewhere (where the procurement of gun registration lists would have been comparatively easy). . . . A fourth was the discovery by the armed forces that less than 2 per cent of the American men inducted for military service had any knowledge of the fundamentals of small-arms practice. . . . A fifth, and perhaps most important, was the action of Congress in placing an amendment into the Administration's War Powers Act specifically prohibiting the registration or requisitioning of privately owned firearms of sporting or target type. Following this action by Congress there were very few further efforts to secure the adoption of antifirearms legislation during the war.

News of the German surrender had scarcely been flashed before the proponents of a Gestapo-like control of privately owned arms were again busy with their campaign of half-truths, misleading statements, and alarmist reports seeking to secure the adoption of local ordinances to require firearms registration. New state laws will be proposed when the Legislatures convene this winter and another attempt to secure favorable action by Congress on a Federal Firearms Registration Law seems likely.

POSTWAR SHOOTING PROSPECTS

The National Rifle Association enters the postwar era in the strongest position and with the best prospects it has ever enjoyed. Every man at the Headquarters Staff who was physically acceptable served in the Army or Navy during the war. They are accordingly familiar, from personal contact, with the ideas and problems of the Services and of the men who are returning from the Services to civilian life. This will be important as we plan our postwar activities.

Meanwhile, those of us who were forced by circumstances to remain on the job of running the wartime Association have learned a great deal about instruction and training methods. Through extensive correspondence with our members in every theater of war we have acquired an excellent picture, broader perhaps than that obtained by the men in each theater, of the widely varied requirements in small-arms equipment and use as developed during the war.

New training films, new instruction manuals, new methods of training referees, club secretaries, range officers, and statistical officers will make their appearance during 1946. There will be a change from the prewar accent on competition to a postwar accent on instruction, so that quality may be improved in keeping with the quantity of new shooters which are anticipated. We will have no dearth of shooters but we will not make permanent progress unless we find and develop a great corps of competent *leaders*.

No radical changes in programs or in the established pattern of tournament shooting is anticipated. Additions there will have to be. Bobber targets, running targets, breakable targets will be added to most programs in the not-too-distant future.

The regular program of registered tournaments and leagues will be resumed in 1946.

A great improvement in range facilities has already taken place in some localities and the trend is nation-wide.

The return of the Navy to an active interest in small-arms marksmanship is good for the Navy and good for shooting.

A program is already under way for the establishment of NRA Field Offices to maintain closer contact with the clubs. Two such offices are functioning, a third will be in operation in January, 1946, and a reserve fund has been established to permit the establishment and operation of additional Field Offices as personnel becomes available.

The National Rifle Association of America emerges from its third war financially sound, respected, and appreciated by American officials and the American people and with a new fund of experience which will be capitalized to develop the outstanding patriotic sportsmen's organization of the world. ♦ ♦ ♦

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 14, 1945

Dear Mr. Lister:

The tradition of a citizen soldiery is firmly, and properly, imbedded in our national ideals. Initiative, discipline, and skill in the use of small arms are essentials for the development of the finished citizen soldier.

The National Rifle Association, in the periods between our last four wars, has done much to encourage the improvement of small arms and of small-arms marksmanship in the regular services, as well as in the National Guard, reserve units, and the civilian population.

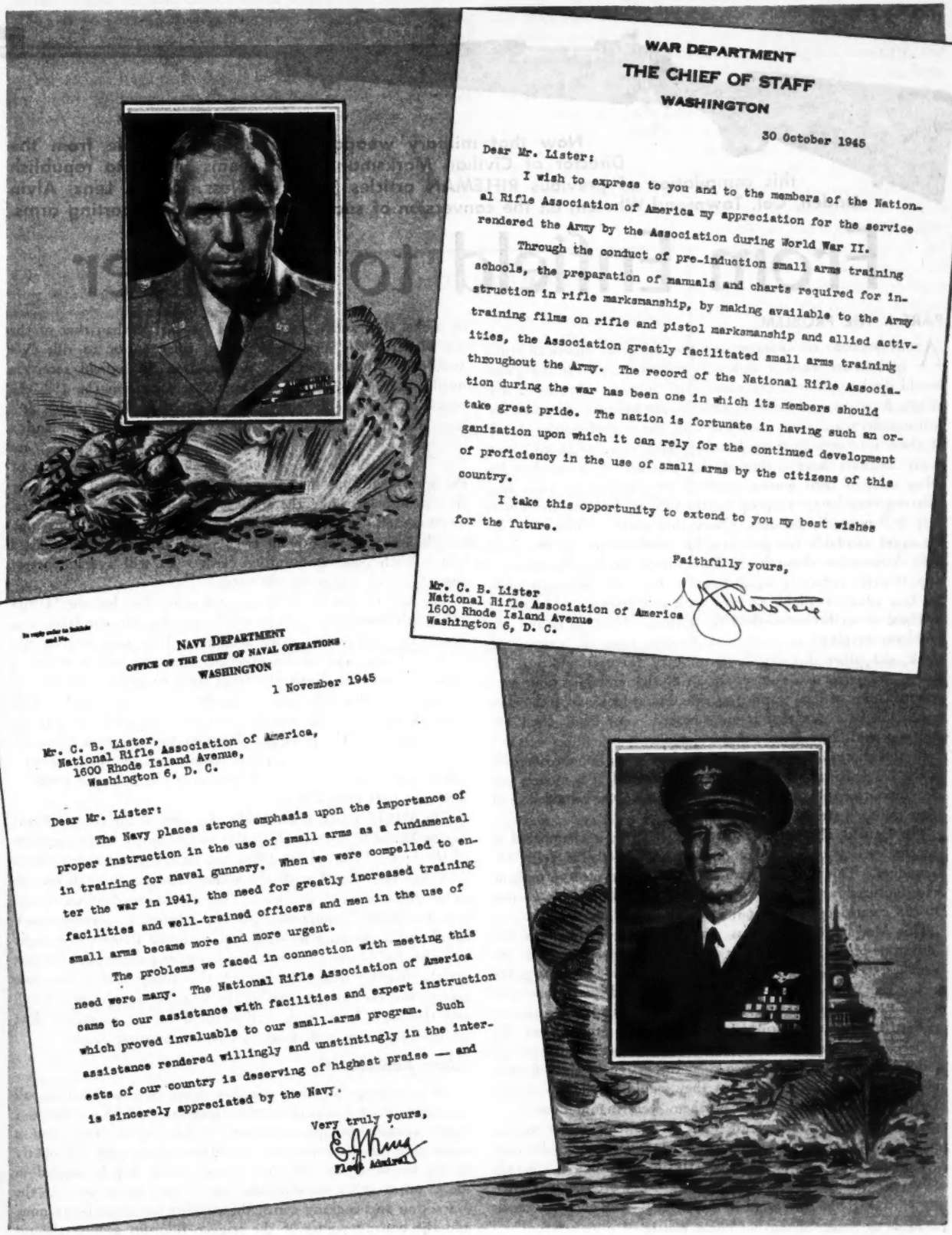
During the war just ended, the contributions of the Association in the matter of small-arms training aids, the nation-wide pre-induction training program, the recruiting of experienced small-arms instructors for all branches of the armed services, and technical advice and assistance to Government civilian agencies aiding in the prosecution of the war — all contributed freely and without expense to the Government — have materially aided our war effort.

I hope that the splendid program which the National Rifle Association has followed during the past three-quarters of a century will be continued. It is a program which is good for a free America.

Sincerely,

Harry Truman

Mr. C. B. Lister, Secretary-Treasurer
National Rifle Association of America
1600 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.



WAR DEPARTMENT
THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

30 October 1945

Dear Mr. Lister:

I wish to express to you and to the members of the National Rifle Association of America my appreciation for the service rendered the Army by the Association during World War II.

Through the conduct of pre-induction small arms training schools, the preparation of manuals and charts required for instruction in rifle marksmanship, by making available to the Army training films on rifle and pistol marksmanship and allied activities, the Association greatly facilitated small arms training throughout the Army. The record of the National Rifle Association during the war has been one in which its members should take great pride. The nation is fortunate in having such an organization upon which it can rely for the continued development of proficiency in the use of small arms by the citizens of this country.

I take this opportunity to extend to you my best wishes for the future.

Faithfully yours,

Mr. C. B. Lister
National Rifle Association of America
1600 Rhode Island Avenue
Washington 6, D. C.

In reply refer to Initials and No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

1 November 1945

Mr. C. B. Lister,
National Rifle Association of America,
1600 Rhode Island Avenue,
Washington 6, D. C.

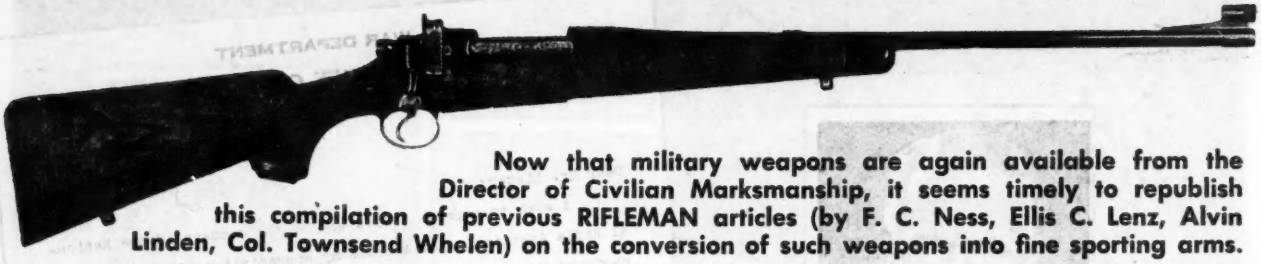
Dear Mr. Lister:

The Navy places strong emphasis upon the importance of proper instruction in the use of small arms as a fundamental in training for naval gunnery. When we were compelled to enter the war in 1941, the need for greatly increased training facilities and well-trained officers and men in the use of small arms became more and more urgent.

The problems we faced in connection with meeting this need were many. The National Rifle Association of America came to our assistance with facilities and expert instruction which proved invaluable to our small-arms program. Such assistance rendered willingly and unstintingly in the interests of our country is deserving of highest praise — and is sincerely appreciated by the Navy.

Very truly yours,

Fleet Admiral



Now that military weapons are again available from the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, it seems timely to republish this compilation of previous RIFLEMAN articles (by F. C. Ness, Ellis C. Lenz, Alvin Linden, Col. Townsend Whelen) on the conversion of such weapons into fine sporting arms.

From Enfield to Sporter

PART I. THE PROBLEM

AN INVENTORY OF ARMS possessed by the great American army of hunters when it makes its annual search for big game would disclose an amazing number of military arms, especially Krags, Russians, and Enfields, obsolete for military purposes but still excellent arms for use on certain varieties of game. Some of these are taken into the hunting fields just "as issued"; but many shooters have increased the pleasure of ownership by using some of their winter evenings to rebuild their guns into sporting arms better adapted for the type of shooting for which they will normally be used. Now that some of these weapons are again available for purchase by members of the National Rifle Association through the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, it seems timely to repeat from previous RIFLEMAN articles the best advice available on how such conversions can be made.

There is no better method of learning about guns and the problems involved in their manufacture than to remove the stock and other distinguishing military features and use the action and barrel as a nucleus for a rifle that embodies your own personal ideas of how a sporting rifle should look and feel. The result will be a gun that is more nearly "your own" than any gun you could buy from a dealer's stock.

In this discussion, the popular Enfield rifle, known officially as the U. S. Rifle, Model 1917, has been used as a model; but the same information is equally applicable to the remodeling of other military arms.

The Enfield, also referred to as the M1917, is chambered to use the variety of cartridges known collectively as ".30-'06" cartridges. This includes both M1 and M2 service ammunition manufactured at Frankford Arsenal, as well as the various .30-'06 cartridges loaded commercially by various makers.

This Model 1917 rifle was manufactured in the Ilion and Eddystone plants of the Remington Arms Company, and by the Winchester Repeating Arms Company, to meet an emergency during the World War I* because of the inadequate supply of Model 1903 Springfield service rifles. These firms were already engaged in manufacturing for the British Government the Model 1914 Enfield rifles in .303 British caliber. To meet the acute shortage of U. S. service rifles the design of these Enfield rifles was slightly altered so that they would handle our service cartridge, and large numbers of them were manufactured for our own use, thus avoiding the long delay necessary for tooling up for the manufacture of the Model 1903 Springfield rifle.

The dimensions of the one-piece, full-length stock are: length of buttstock, measured from trigger, 13½"; drop at heel from line of sight, 3½"; drop at comb, 2¾". The action is made of nickel steel and is stronger and less brittle than that of the old Model 1903 Springfield service rifles (prior to rifle No. 800,000. Nickel steel was not used in Springfield receivers until rifle No. 1,275,767 was made, sometime in the 1927-28 period of Springfield Armory manufacture.) The barrel is 26" long, has five lands, with grooves of the same width, and a left-hand twist of one turn in ten inches. The grooves are .005" deep and the bore is .005" to .001" larger than that of the Springfield, but the accuracy is practically equal to that of the Springfield, while the accuracy life is longer. The barrel measures .600" at the muzzle, 625" at the twenty-four-inch length, and .641" at a point twenty-two inches from the closed bolt. With good ammunition both rifles will average better than 2½-inch groups at 100 yards.

The M1917 rifle has a better peep sight than has the M1903 rifle. Although this sight is not adjustable for windage, it is nearer to the eye and more accurate. It is mounted on the receiver bridge and has an excellent aperture, which makes it necessary to revamp only the front sight to qualify the M1917 as a practical hunting rifle. The M1917 rifle as issued is well adapted for rifle club qualification matches over the various Army courses. The principal objection to it arises in rapid-fire work, as a different technique is required in the final cocking, which is done on the forward motion of the bolt and tends to draw the butt from the shoulder.

The M1917 action is essentially the same as the former Remington Model 30 action, which also cocked on the closing motion of the bolt. Later, about 1926, the Remington Express Model 30A was introduced with the action changed to cock on the unlocking motion of the bolt. This was followed by the Model 30S Remington equipped with the improved sporting stock developed by Belding & Mull, and with the Lyman 48R sight and the double-stage military type trigger pull, similar to that on the M1917 rifle. Because of the heavy bridge, the side safety, and the low position of the bolt handle, the Model 30S and the M1917 are both well adapted for an extremely low mounting of any wide-field, low-power hunting scope.

Minor Adjustments

After wiping out the cosmoline from bore and action, all that these rifles will need to put them into working order is a slight amount of sperm oil on all bearing surfaces, and a tightening (if necessary) of the guard screws with a properly fitting screw driver. With a flannel patch lightly dipped in sperm oil or other suitable lubricant, wipe the surfaces of the extraction and cocking cams, the cocking notch and sear nose, and the bearing points of the trigger fulcrum against the re-

* Made by Savage-Stevens for World War II.

ceiver. These surfaces can be honed with a hard Arkansas oil stone, or worked smooth with flour of emery, to promote smooth action, but they should also be kept very lightly lubricated to prevent wear and roughness.

The second stage or final pull of the trigger can be reduced by slightly grinding down the end, or heel, of the trigger where it bears against the receiver, so that the bearing hump ahead of it is left longer in contact with the receiver. The effect is to withdraw the sear nose a greater distance before the final pull commences. By this means the take-up or first stage of the pull is lengthened and the final pull is decreased. It is not safe to shorten the sear nose itself to accomplish this same purpose, unless at least a one-eighth-inch projection is left to insure a positive contact with the cocking nose when the bolt is slammed home or when the cocked rifle is rudely jarred.

Any remodeling beyond the minor work described must be dictated entirely by the taste of the owner and the purpose for which the rifle is to be used. The front sight guards and the entire rear sight can be milled, ground, or sawed off, if desired. By the hacksaw method, a great amount of patience and at least a dozen good blades will be required. The forestock can be cut off and rounded forward of the lower band, and the comb can be built up, as can the pistol grip. The barrel can be cut off to twenty-two or twenty-four inches, or just back of the front sight, and then equipped with the regular Springfield front sight assembly or with any of the neat commercial ramp sights on the market. So shortened, the muzzle velocity will be slightly lower than with the original twenty-six-inch length.

For a rear sight, the Lyman 48 R, for target work, or the Belding & Mull Bolt Sleeve Sight, for hunting, may be used. There is available a less expensive Redfield receiver sight, and also some half-dozen models of moderate-priced rear sights of Pacific make which can be used for sporting or range use, according to the particular model selected.

Although the barrel is either blued or Parkerized over its entire length, many of these rifles are roughly finished, and if the wooden hand guard is to be removed in making a sporter of the M1917, the entire barrel and receiver should be refinished and reblued after the military sights have been removed.

PART II. METAL OPERATIONS

The steel portion of the M1917 is rather roughly finished on the outside, although the exterior of the barrel is usually not as rough as is a military Springfield barrel, and is beautifully tapered. It can be cleaned up by draw-filing, ready to be polished and blued. The receiver also can be smoothed up, using a small mill file, and then polished ready for blueing.

The biggest job on the Enfield action is the removal or dressing down of the rear sight guards. The receiver is made of nickel steel, and is tough. It can be cut with a file and a hacksaw, but a power grinder is the best tool with which to remove most of the metal. This entire rear sight arrangement can be removed and the top of the receiver bridge rounded off, or it can be left on and cut down to more pleasing lines. One's own taste must govern here.

The front sight on the Enfield is anything but beautiful, but it is a simple matter to trim this down to neat and pleasing lines.

The side wings are, of course, cut off and the sight stud shaped up to suit one's taste. One satisfactory alteration is to file the top of the stud until the dovetail slot has been entirely removed, then slot the stud lengthwise and fit a blade sight.

The Enfield action can be worked over a little to make it quite smooth and fast. The first thing to do is to polish up the body of the bolt with fine emery cloth, being careful not to touch the rear faces of the locking lugs, as the removal of any metal here would increase the head space—a dangerous thing to do. Then the bearing surfaces of the receiver, on which the bolt slides, can be smoothed up where necessary, care being taken not to remove any real metal. The rear end of the magazine follower should be ground on an angle of about 45 degrees, so that the bolt can be closed on an empty magazine without its being necessary to depress the follower with the fingers. Anyone can do the above work, and it will produce a much sweeter action.

Metal Finishing and Blueing

The attractiveness of the rifle *after* blueing will depend on how well the receiver, barrel, and metal parts are finished and polished *before* blueing. A thorough job can be done by hand, with emery or crocus cloth and other polishing materials, but a quicker and better finish can be had (and more easily) by using motor-driven buffing wheels in conjunction with different polishing compounds, used progressively, from coarse to fine. When the metal parts have been polished and wiped clean and the grease has been removed from the bore and action, these parts are ready for the blueing tank.

The tank can be made by welding flat pieces of black metal. It must be longer than the barrel and it should be long enough to take the barrel-and-receiver assembly. It should be six inches wide and at least eight inches (preferably a foot) deep.

Regardless of blueing method, an extra tank should be at hand for degreasing (preboiling in an alkaline solution) or for rinsing after blueing (boiling in clean water). The heating element must run the length of the tank and the amount of heat must be under control, as the blueing temperatures range from 285 to 325 degrees F, maximum. A deep-fat-frying thermometer will be almost essential.

In the old "hot-nitric" swabbing process it was necessary to plug both ends of the bore and to avoid touching the thoroughly degreased metal with the fingers. None of these precautions is necessary in the modern hot-bath method. After excessive grease has been removed from the metal it is merely boiled in the solution of blueing salts and water, at the required temperature, from ten to fifty minutes. The time depends on the nature of the metal and the age of the solution. The salts will last indefinitely if so-called "rejuvenat- *(Continued on page 40)*

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Director of Civilian Marksmanship is pleased to announce that the wartime restrictions on the activities of his office have now been lifted—

That issues of authorized Ordnance materials and supplies used in marksmanship will again be made to schools and clubs enrolled with his office . . .

And that sales of certain materials and supplies used in target practice will be resumed as fast as they become available.

Sales will be made to Senior members of the National Rifle Association.

—Colonel Emerald F. Sloan, D. C. M.

Pattern For

"If we desire to avoid insult we must be ready to repel it. If we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful institutions of our rising prosperity, it must be known that we are at all times ready for war."—**GEORGE WASHINGTON, Message to Congress, December, 1793.**

"The surest guarantee that no nation will dare again to attack us is to remain strong in the only kind of strength an aggressor understands—military power. . . . I recommend that we depend for our security upon comparatively small professional armed forces, reinforced by a well-trained and effectively organized citizen reserve. The backbone of our military force should be the trained citizen."—**HARRY S. TRUMAN, Message to Congress, October 23, 1945.** (See also page 10.)

"Technology (knowledge and skill in science and manufacture) does not eliminate the need for men in war. . . . Men learn to fire a rifle or machine gun quickly, but it takes long hours of . . . maneuver before the firing of the rifle is co-ordinated with the activities of (the) other men on the team. All men who might someday have to fight for their Nation must have this team training. . . . Peace can only be maintained by the strong."—**GEORGE MARSHALL, Chief of Staff of the United States Army, Biennial Report, June 30, 1945.**

NO ONE CAN FAIL to note, in the three quotations above, the remarkable unanimity of thought in these three statements by three men who are entitled to speak with authority on the subject of American military preparedness.

In 1943, California enacted laws (strengthening and amending still earlier actions) to put into active performance, on a state-wide scale, a system of basic military training closely paralleling the fundamentals recommended for the Nation by Presidents Washington and Truman, and by General George Marshall. The California law (including amendments enacted in January, 1945) reads:

"500.1. Except as hereinafter provided, each four-year high school and each Senior High School in this State having 100 or more male students of fourteen years of age or over and in which there is not maintained an R.O.T.C. unit *shall* establish a high school cadet company or companies . . ., and any four-year high school and each Senior High School in the State having less than 100 such students *may* establish a high school cadet company or companies."

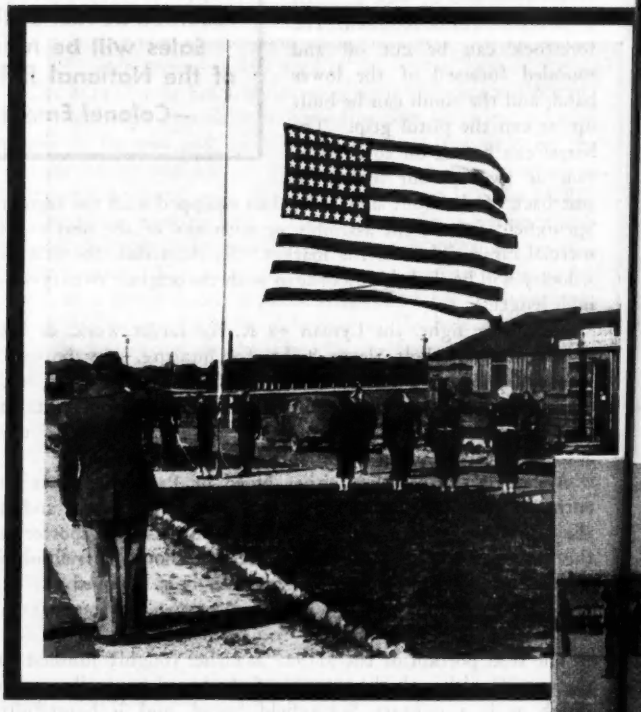
By COLONEL WILLIAM RUTHERFORD

California's plan may be indicative of the Pattern for Tomorrow. Mississippi has already adopted a similar program, and other states have plans prepared pending the action of their legislative bodies.

If there is any doubt in any mind as to what this means to the future of rifle shooting in America, let that doubter read Section 511 of the California law:

"Target practice shall constitute a part of the instruction to be given to cadets. . . . All target practice shall be under the supervision of the commandants of cadets or competent members of the National Guard or Naval Militia detailed by the Adjutant General."

According to competent estimates, the potential scope of



In California, young men are learning in high school, as part of their regular high school curriculum, military science and the fundamentals of leadership, discipline, and teamwork that make them better and more successful citizens as well as better potential soldiers. They are learning the fundamentals, too, of marksmanship—as a weapon for national defense, and as a sport. This High School Cadet Corps program may well be the pattern for training America's citizen-soldiers of tomorrow.

Tomorrow

and E. B. MANN

this program involves 600 secondary schools *in California alone;* 600 schools that have already included, or will within the next two years include in their regular curricula Military Training (including complete basic training in Rifle Marksmanship). Each year, California alone, by reason of this program, will train more junior rifle marksmen, ages fourteen to eighteen, than have ever been trained in any peacetime year in the history of the Nation.

No shooter can fail to understand what this means, not only to the future of National Defense, but to the future of shooting as a sport, as well. These schools will provide a wealth of "raw material" never before dreamed of for Senior Shooting Clubs and for the development of shooting as a major American sport and pastime.

Spread this program over all the states—and it seems inevitable that it *will* spread to all the states, if not by Federal order, then by the independent choice of the states themselves—and America will be well on its way to being, again, truly "a Nation of riflemen."

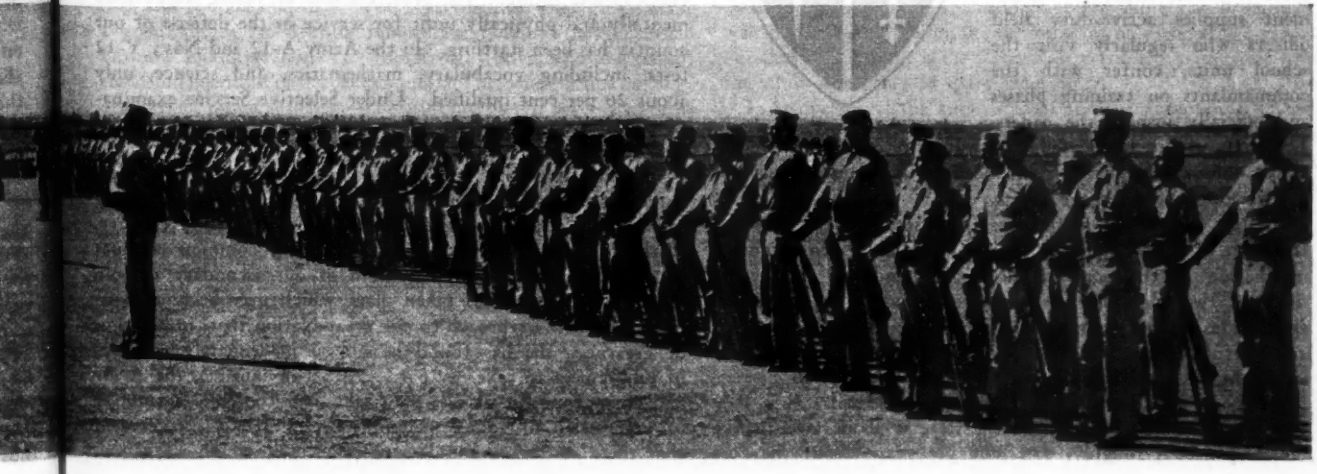
In California at least, this program is no mere planner's dream; it is a working fact. Under the able and enthusiastic leadership of Brigadier General Victor R. Hansen, Adjutant General of the State of California, and Colonel William Rutherford, noted educator and Director of the California High School Cadet Program, more than 100 High School Cadet Corps are already in operation, and cadet units will be organized and activated in the other secondary schools in the state as rapidly as equipment and instructor personnel are available.

Through the facilities of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, Washington, D. C., the cadet units may be provided with (1) a .30 caliber (Enfield) rifle for each cadet for drill and training purposes; (2) up to ten .22 caliber rifles per unit, the number depending on the number of cadets in the unit; and (3) a yearly allowance of ammunition and targets.

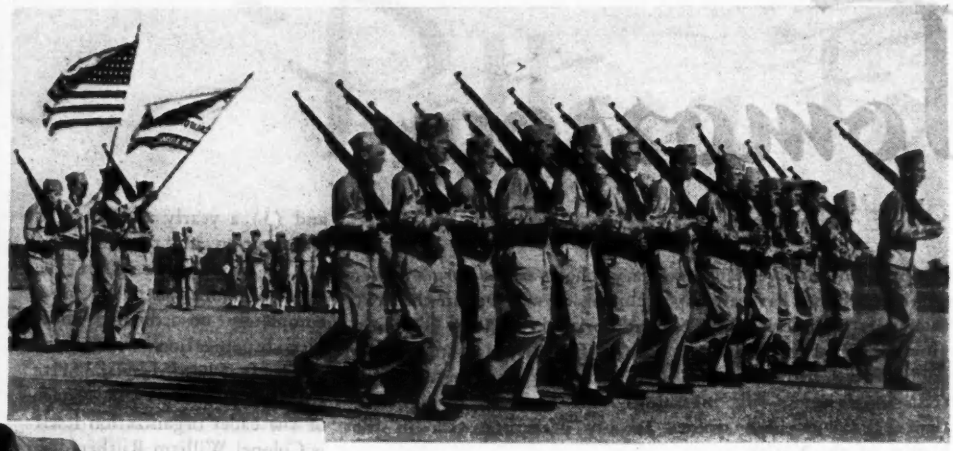
The physical setup of the cadet organization is that of a completely co-ordinated military organization within the state. It is headed by the State Adjutant General. In charge of the cadet organization itself is Colonel William Rutherford, and his assistant, Major C. H. S. Roberts.

The program provides for an Annual Encampment held each summer where cadets carry on their training under "field" conditions. Uniforms for cadets are purchased through the Adjutant General's office. Rifles may be furnished by the War Department as explained above. Rifle competitions are fostered under the direction of National Rifle Association instructors. Field Manuals and Training Manuals are provided by the State Adjutant General. "Young Yank," the Adjutant General's official monthly bulletin for the California High School Cadet Corps, is issued to each cadet as a guide to the progress of the Corps. (The publication is sponsored by the American Legion.)

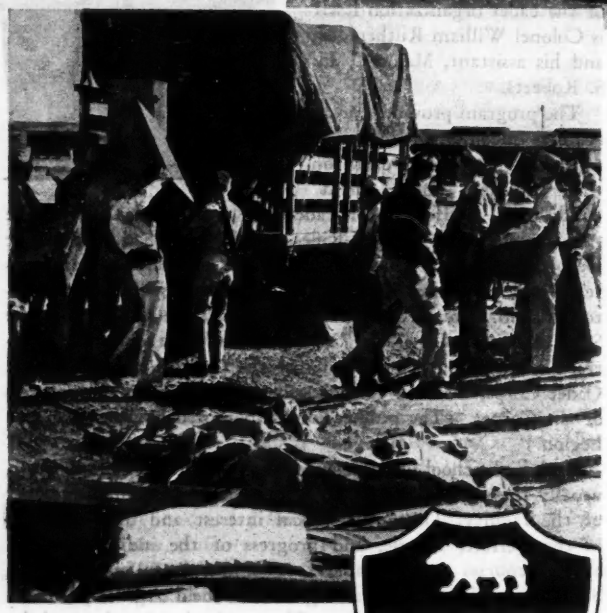
Each high school unit is commanded by its own commandant, usually the physical education instructor or a qualified member of the faculty. This insures local interest and understanding in the welfare, morale, and progress of the individual unit. Special courses are available for commandants in California State Guard Tactical Training Schools held regularly in Los Angeles and San Francisco. These schools are observed by assigned Army officers and their co-operation is extended to giving actual class instruction in specialized subjects. The



Nattily uniformed High School cadets march in review on one of California's drill fields.



But the annual summer encampment is the high spot of the Cadet's year. Here he learns soldiering by being a soldier, and gets an outdoor vacation thrown in. *Below:* The California Cadet's shoulder patch.



State Adjutant General's Department supplies active-duty field officers who regularly visit the school units, confer with the commandants on training phases and officially inspect the cadets. These instructors, incidentally, are young retired Army officers whose military experience is enhanced by a natural enthusiasm for working with teen-age cadets.

Interest is great in marksmanship, a sport that is close to the heart of every American boy. Cadets are given thorough instruction in the nomenclature, safe handling, and actual firing of the rifle. They have the opportunity to qualify in the various grades of marksmanship on approved ranges that are carefully supervised by qualified instructors. So a cadet is taught to shoot expertly just as he is taught the correct bearing and conduct of a soldier and a gentleman.

The cost of the program to the state is about twenty-five dollars per boy; roughly, $342,000 per year—about the cost of one B-29 bomber—for the 14,000 boys currently enrolled.

Is it worth it? California thinks so! California is enthusiastic about the program for what it does for her boys—and she considers it an added dividend that the cadet program provides her with a trained, enthusiastic nucleus for her National Guard.

All over the country, whenever discussion has arisen concerning any military training program, the question has been asked: "What do the educators think of it? What is the opinion of men trained in educational methods about mixing military training with the 'three R's?' "

Few names in this country stand higher in educational circles than that of Colonel William Rutherford, Superintendent of Grant Union High School and Technical College, Sacramento, California, now Director of the California High School Cadet Corps. Colonel Rutherford says:

"Any emergency, personal or national, always has the effect of bringing out the best in the people involved. We have been, and are, very proud of the splendid way in which our young men and women have met the tremendous problems of the past few years. However, educators, vitally interested in the training of this generation to whom we look for the salvation of a threatened world, have been alarmed by certain weaknesses which now have been brought to light.

"Education has, from many sides, come in for a severe checkup and rating. The great number of young men found mentally and physically unfit for service in the defense of our country has been startling. In the Army A-12 and Navy V-12 tests, including vocabulary, mathematics, and science, only about 20 per cent qualified. Under Selective Service examinations, over 4,000,000 out of 22,000,000 were found to be physically unfit.

"Taking inventory is a helpful thing. Today as we view current problems, we must realize that we have been traveling toward this state in education for more than half a century. With the abandonment of discipline in the common conduct of students and in the curriculum of our secondary schools, a softening process has taken place which may become disastrous, and it is a reproach to our great Nation that, in her time of greatness, she has found herself so inadequately prepared in this respect to take her part. As a consequence, the Army and Navy found it necessary to take over the college training of practically all young men of military age. It is evident that there are certain fundamentals without which we cannot

get along in time of stress and with which we might do much better in time of peace.

"Coming from the broader to a more specific viewpoint, our secondary schools throughout the Nation that have been able to have a military training program such as the R.O.T.C. units (or, as in our State, the California High School Cadet Corps training units) have received much less of a jolt. While they are but a small part of our secondary schools in number, their qualitative presentation of men to the armed forces is comparatively great.

"The average person might say that secondary schools giving military training were preparing for war. This is a narrow viewpoint. Our high schools giving military training prepare young men morally, mentally, and physically for any life that they may be called upon to undertake. The most important feature of military training in our high schools is the emphasis placed upon the all-around development of the individual. Young men must first learn to obey and to conform to demands placed upon them. The principles of loyalty, duty, and responsibility are the aim of California high schools giving cadet training, conforming to worthy ideals and high standards rather than mere unrestrained self-expression. The honor system is set up in the Cadet Rules and Regulations as a basic principle. The "Officer Ideal" holds a young man to what is best and highest in him. The morale of the California High School Cadets impels its members to standards that are exceptionally high.

"While too much cannot be said of the benefits brought by preinduction military training to those cadets who entered the armed forces, we face the newly won peace with a recognized responsibility that assumes new proportions. We are preparing our youth to answer the challenge of a world that holds vast responsibilities as well as vast promise for the young men leaving school. Anyone who analyzes the subject will concede that military training in high schools cannot be considered solely as a preparation for military life. It cannot be isolated on a level of militaristic planning.

"The values of cadet training can be directly applied in business and professional life. The very qualities that go to make a good soldier are definite factors in molding the successful business and civic leader of tomorrow. Boys who are taught the fundamentals of leadership, discipline, clear thinking, coordination, physical fitness—those intangibles of successful business leadership, stand the same good chance of succeeding in the business world as those cadets who forged ahead in military life."

Nor is Colonel Rutherford alone in the opinion that military training has a place in American secondary schools. The principals of the schools in which the California High School Cadet program is already operative are almost unanimously enthusiastic about it. Out of a long list of testimonials, the following excerpts are representative:

Earle P. Crandall, Principal, Lodi Union High School, says: *"We have seen a splendid change of attitude on the part of cadets from the standpoint of courtesy and military bearing."*

H. E. Chastein, Principal, Placer Union High School says: *"The cadet program adds greatly to the general morale of the school and to the natural interest of older boys in high school."*

Paul M. Goodwin, Principal, Mount Shasta High School, says: *"To me, the C.H.S.C. training program is one of the finest things we have in school. The individual boy learns neatness, cleanliness, courtesy, discipline, which are all qualities he will carry into later life. The school program takes on new meaning with the cadet unit as a part of it. Respect for flag, country, and our fighting men is greatly developed. The community, too, profits. Co-operation between this group, the American Legion, and other organizations brings out good citizenship. And, finally, it develops for the State and the Nation a Corps of men with a better understanding of what it means to be an American."*

Charles R. Green, Principal, McCloud High School, says: *"I have noticed that disciplinary cases in school have improved under the training rules and regulations of the cadet program."*

F. E. Taylor, Principal, Galt Joint Union High School, says: *"Every boy in school is voluntarily taking the training. We should have more rifles, both .22 caliber and .30-'06. The boys here like shooting."*

Robert R. Hatzell, Principal, Red Bluff Union High School, says: *"The High School Cadet Corps is a morale builder and serves as a convenient means of teaching habits and attitudes which could not be so conveniently taught otherwise. We shall offer military training five days a week next year."*

Downey Union High School reports: *"The average grades of cadets were higher since receiving military training, and the training developed leadership among the students."*

LEST WE FORGET

Eventually, 13,000,000 men and women will wear it. Each one of those men and women has done you a personal, unrepayable service. The very least you can do is to recognize this insigne. It is the Honorable Service Emblem, to be worn by Veterans of World War II. Remember it, and honor it.

To NRA members and member clubs, and to shooters everywhere, this program and the prospect that it may be adopted in other states is important news. Its potentials are incalculable. And these potentials place a direct responsibility on us—on the NRA as a national organization, on each and every NRA club, on each and every NRA member: The responsibility of making the most of the golden opportunity we face to guide and mold American youth—the responsibility of implementing this military training program with able, trained, enthusiastic instructors—and the responsibility of providing a well-planned, well-publicized, well-conducted program of competitive shooting that will attract these Cadet-Corps-trained youngsters into the adult fellowship of sport shooting.

In many ways, the time is ideal for the acceptance of this challenge. Due to its successful wartime preinduction training program, the value of which is thoroughly appreciated in high places, the NRA stands today in a position of favor with the War Department and with the services never surpassed in its long and honorable history. We have more instructors, many of them at the peak of their ability due to their experience in the preinduction schools. And, among the millions of men who had their first introduction to marksmanship in the service, we have a vast backlog of interest in shooting.

Marksmanship is an American tradition. The time is ripe for its revival on a scale never before attainable. California has blazed the trail, not only for a program of National Defense but for a program of national sport. ♦ ♦ ♦

The Law—

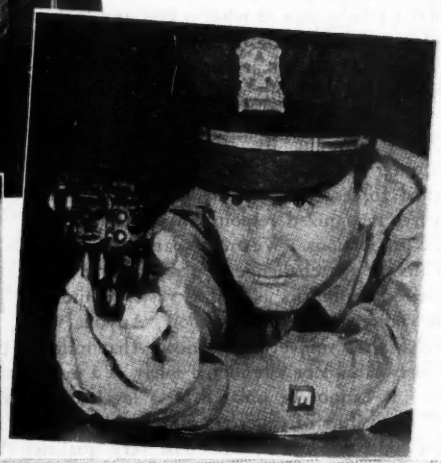
YOU HAVE ALL HEARD the story of the cowboy at the movies becoming too enthralled with the scene, pulling his six-shooter, filling the "villain" on the screen full of holes, and the audience full of panic. This is the principle of a device used by the Kansas City Police Academy to teach police officers to hit moving targets under actual, true-to-life conditions. We borrowed the idea from the St. Louis police, who have been using a similar device for several years. Here's how it works:

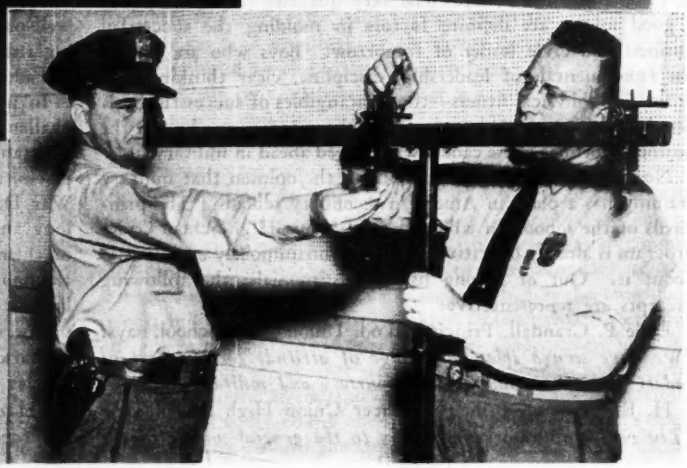
A 16 mm. motion picture projector flashes the scenes on paper screens which roll in opposite directions and which are operated by electric motors. The shooter stands about fifty feet away from the screen and, when he fires, the sound passes through a microphone and a control board which automatically stops the running figure on the screen. It also turns on lights back of the screen, permitting light to pass through the bullet hole, showing whether the shot was a hit or a miss. A button is pressed, the screens roll slightly, shutting off the light, and the figure starts moving again. The culprits run through groups of women and children and mingle with crowds as they fire at police who dash in and out of the scenes.

Hitting those running, dodging figures isn't easy. They are only a few inches high—comparable to real human targets at twenty-five to fifty or more yards; and the job of hitting the right target without hitting or endangering the wrong ones lends zest to the game. A system of scoring is used whereby the shooter is penalized if he shoots before the plot of the scene is enacted, if he endangers a bystander, or if he shoots the wrong person. The device furnishes realistic targets under realistic conditions, and is a real test of the shooter's skill and judgment. He needs to be cool, alert, quick-witted—and a sure marksman.

In this business of law enforcement, the ability to shoot fast and straight is important! Now, as in the early days of America when the six-shooter was law, the difference between getting back to the family fireside after a day's work in the law-enforcement field and being carried home feet first often depends upon the ability to get a gun into action fast and make the first shot score!

Too, the mere presence of a large revolver swinging from a policeman's hip has prevented many an altercation merely by its deterrent effect. It also works to the advantage of our good citizen who, three hundred and sixty-four days out of every year, behaves himself, but, on the other day, breaks loose, gets "loaded" with spiritus frumenti, and decides that he can whip the community, including the bartender and the policeman who answers the call. He changes his mind when he sees that trusty six-shooter swinging at the policeman's side—and thereby saves himself cranial knots and resounding thumps





Top: This officer gains both steadiness and protection from this use of cover. He is a small target!

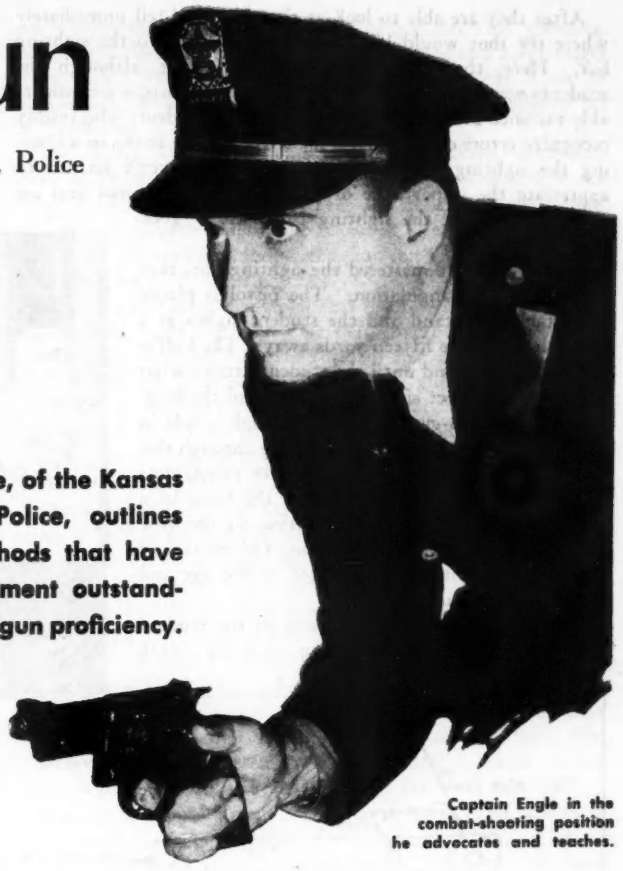
Upper right: Captain Engle shows how prone position provides steady hold while offering minimum target.

Above: Moving-picture scenes of bandits in action on city streets provide excellent test of officer's ability to place bullets under emergency conditions.

Right: Sgt. O'Connor instructs an officer in the use of the sighting bar. Basic instruction such as this provides the firm foundation for advanced work later.

and the Gun

By CAPT. BYRON ENGLE, Kansas City, Mo., Police



Capt. Byron Engle, of the Kansas City (Missouri) Police, outlines the training methods that have made his department outstanding in police handgun proficiency.

Captain Engle in the combat-shooting position he advocates and teaches.

across his rear extremities. He probably ends up by being taken home by the policeman instead of facing an "Assault" or "Resisting Arrest" charge the following day. In other words, the gun has *prevented* violence.

A revolver is the basic weapon of the police officer. He, like any skilled workman, is expected to be familiar with the tools of his trade. You wouldn't respect a carpenter who couldn't saw a straight line—neither do you have a good opinion of a law enforcement officer who can't shoot straight—and rightfully so!

The problem, therefore, is to teach police officers how to shoot so that, when they face an assailant who has a pistol in his hand and murder in his heart, they can come out of the situation alive!

Should they be taught to stand and carefully aim at their assailant only a few feet away? Should they be taught "quick draw" and to shoot from the hip? Should they be taught to take cover and fire from corners of buildings and to shoot from prone and sitting positions when in the open? Should they be required to fire both right and left handed? All of these things must be considered by the training director in organizing a comprehensive firearms training program.

It is my opinion that *all* these phases of gun skill are essential to every law-enforcement officer who carries a gun. That is the policy we have followed in establishing our training program at the Kansas City Police Academy.

In addition, we believe that the police officer should be practiced in shooting at moving objects, both in the daylight and in semidarkness. A high percentage of the targets at which a police officer has occasion to fire are in the semidarkness of poorly lighted streets, and often the object is moving—and darn fast, too! This is a real test of marksmanship! The policeman, in fairness to himself and to the public which employs him, should master each of these skills. While it is true that an officer may carry a gun for years and never use it, when the time *does* come, he needs it in a hurry; and, if he is to live a long and happy life, he needs to hit what he is shooting at!

How should he be initiated in firearms training? Should he be given a gun, shown a target, and told, "Now, shoot?" Definitely not! He should be taught the basic elements first. An instructor should never be afraid of being too elementary with his preliminary instruction and not be afraid to tell a person something that he may already know. What if he does know? It won't hurt him to hear it again—as long as it is proper instruction. People are hesitant about asking questions and frequently a student will fail simply because he did not learn all the elements and hated to ask simple questions.

All of the story must be put across—everything that goes to make the shooter's job a little easier—not just part of it.

There are a lot of ways of teaching pistol marksmanship. We don't pretend to know all the answers; neither do we claim that our methods are any better than others. However, they have proved successful and are passed along for whatever they are worth.

We start by teaching the rules of safety. After making sure that everyone is familiar with a gun and which way to point it—which means down range or into the holster and not at the instructor's rear extremities or at the shooter's foot—we start in with sighting instruction.

It has always seemed funny to me that men who recognize the importance of sighting a rifle think that all they have to do with a pistol is just point it in the general direction of the target, shut their eyes, and jerk. One of the hardest things to get across in pistol instruction is the appreciation of sight alignment. Maybe it is because, since childhood, we have all read stories of how Uncle Bill mounted old Maude and rode down the lane at a gallop and shot bobwhite quail from the passing fence posts without a miss. I have heard men who had been shooting a pistol for years—and not hitting anything—suddenly exclaim, "Hell, I didn't know you were supposed to keep the front sight level with the back sight! I just stuck her in the middle and let 'er go."

In our instruction, we use sighting charts. On the top half of the chart, we show errors in sight alignment. The bottom half of the chart is a bull's-eye indicating where the shot would hit. These charts are folded in the center with only the incorrect sight alignment exposed. After considerable discussion as to where the shot will hit, the bottom half of the chart is dropped into view and the students can readily see the effect of an error.

After they are able to look at the chart and tell immediately where the shot would hit, they are introduced to the sighting bar. Here, the instructor usually finds that, although the students were familiar with the sight charts, there is a considerable variance between practice and theory. Students who readily recognize errors on the charts make those same errors in adjusting the sighting bar, simply because they haven't learned to appreciate the importance of *perfect* sight alignment and are content to adjust the sighting bar with a "good enough" attitude.

After they have mastered the sighting bar, they are ready for triangulation. The pistol is placed in a stationary stand and the student sights at a movable bull's-eye fifteen yards away. The bull's-eye is moved around until the student attains what he thinks is perfect sight alignment, and the location of the bull's-eye is marked through a hole in the center of the target. After going through this procedure three times, there are three pencil dots on a white background usually in the form of a triangle. This is often a revelation to the new student because, in triangulation, failure to get perfect alignment is demonstrated in the size and shape of the triangle.

Triangulation also demonstrates to the student how much he sways. Standing at arm's length away from a stationary stand, he suddenly becomes conscious of body movement. Triangulation also makes it possible to pick out those members in the class with bad eyesight. It also counteracts alibis for bad eyesight when the student is shown how easily his triangle will fit into the ten ring.

After spending considerable time dry firing, the student is initiated in Slow Fire.

There is no substitute for Slow Fire in training the beginner. It is here he learns how to aim and squeeze. He also learns proper grip and stance, breathing, concentration, co-ordination, and the many little things necessary to become a good marksman. These are learned easier in Slow Firing because the student and instructor have time to discover faults, analyze them, and correct them. It is here that good practices become habit—after which they can be performed rapidly.

During Slow Fire training, the beginner should seat the gun in his hand carefully, being certain to get the proper grip and being sure that the gun points "down the arm." After firing the shot, he should transfer the gun to his left hand, drop the right arm, and flex the muscles of his right hand. This rests and relaxes the arm, lessens tremor, relieves fatigue, and helps build the muscles

This sitting position gives steady gun support. Men with over-developed "police muscle" (paunch) must spread feet and legs wider.

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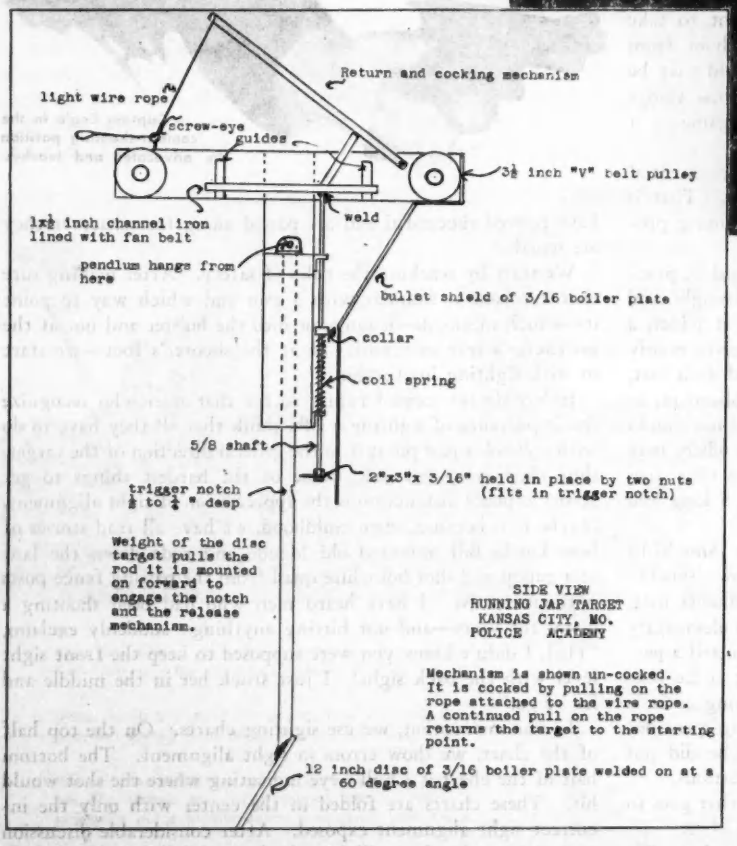
Excellent practical demonstration of the need for straight shooting is this "Charging Jap" which runs straight at the shooter until his bullet hits center, tripping brake.


Return and cocking mechanism
light wire rope
screw-eye guides
3½ inch "V" belt pulley
1x½ inch channel iron lined with fan belt
weld
pendlum hangs from here
bullet shield of 3/16 boiler plate
collar
coil spring
5/8 shaft
2"x3"x 3/16" held in place by two nuts (fits in trigger notch)
trigger notch ⅛ to ¼ " deep
Weight of the disc target pulls the rod it is mounted on forward to engage the notch and the release mechanism.
SIDE VIEW
RUNNING JAP TARGET
KANSAS CITY, MO.
POLICE ACADEMY
Mechanism is shown un-cocked. It is cocked by pulling on the rope attached to the wire rope. A continued pull on the rope returns the target to the starting point.
12 inch disc of 3/16 boiler plate welded on at a 60 degree angle

Detailed drawing shows operation and method of constructing "Charging Jap" target pictured above. Target runs on cable slanting downhill toward shooter. A hit in the "mortal" area releases brake, stops target. Distance of target from shooter determines score.

that are so necessary to hold the gun steadily. In developing this little routine, he receives a lot of practice in seating and gripping the gun. He forms good habits—habits that will help to avoid gripping the gun improperly and, when firing Rapid Fire, ruin an entire score as a result.

A good way to detect flinching on the part of the student is to load several dummy cartridges in the cylinder together with live ones. When the hammer falls on an empty cartridge, there is no recoil to "cover up" the flinching and it can be readily observed by both student and instructor.

A man who can shoot with only one hand is completely at the mercy of his adversary when he is wounded in that hand or arm. A law enforcement officer should be able to shoot with either hand, and several are alive today because they took the time to learn to be "ambidextrous."

The beginner usually has less trouble learning to fire with either hand than does the experienced shooter, probably because the difference in the scores of the opposite hands are not so great with the beginner and he doesn't become discouraged.

If you have never tried shooting with your off hand, by all means do it! It's a lot of fun! But be careful. You will be surprised how awkward you are, and that awkwardness increases the danger of accidental discharges.

There is another advantage in being able to shoot with either hand—it permits taking cover behind buildings and firing around the corner without exposing much of your anatomy.

After the student has mastered the gun with his weak hand, we begin instruction in shooting from behind a portable barricade. The gun is held in the hand corresponding to the side of the barricade from which the firing is to be done. If the left hand is used to fire, the right foot is placed forward at the left edge of the barricade, the left foot directly to the rear. This swings the body behind the barricade. The gun is extended at shoulder level beyond the edge of the barricade. The palm of the right hand is placed on the barricade with the fingers pointed upward and parallel with the edge, the thumb extending beyond the edge, furnishing a natural rest at the wrist for the hand holding the gun. This permits natural holding and manipulation of the gun hand in cocking and firing without powder-burning the supporting hand, and without leaning the gun against the wood.

Should the police officer learn to shoot from the hip? Should he learn to draw quickly and fire as soon as the gun clears the holster, or should he be taught to move it over to the center of his body and assume a half crouch—what is commonly called the "pointing position?" Or is it better to take a little more time, raise the gun to eye level, and line up the sights?

Personally, I think the style of shooting to be used will be governed by the circumstances of each situation and they will vary as individuals vary. I do feel that hip shooting has its place in police training for advanced students who have already learned to shoot in the conventional manner. Hip shooting isn't something for the novice. It should never be taught as a basic subject, but, as a supplementary subject for the advanced student, it has its value. It helps you "beat the other guy" when the situation is such that the first shot is the pay-off. Also, persons with very bad eyesight who cannot see the sights well enough to hit the side of the proverbial barn can learn hip shooting and will be afforded the advantage of some protection at close range.

"Hip shooting," as used in this article, means only that the gun is drawn and fired from about the belt level, not necessarily from the hip. The principles of hip shooting, pointing, or whatever you want to call it, can be learned in a surprisingly short time. Our short course is limited to eight hours of instruction, demonstration, and practice, with a helluva lot of dry firing.

The classes, averaging about twenty individuals, invariably show an average of ninety or more out of a possible 100 in ten shots on the Colt's silhouette target at twenty-one feet—time, twenty-five seconds, including reloading. However, developing speed in drawing and firing can only be accomplished through a lot of faithful practice.

There are two main principles that must be mastered in learning to shoot from the hip. One that governs the elevation or vertical alignment is: Keep the forearm that is holding the gun parallel with the floor or ground. If the gun is held at about belt level, as described, the bullet will hit about that elevation, and the belly is the spot to shoot for. A person shot in the solar plexus, due to a spasmodic reflex of the muscles, will usually drop a gun or anything he may have in his hands.

The other principle controls lateral alignment. The gun must be held in the same alignment in relation to the body each time. I, personally, think the position for the hand holding the gun is directly under and in front of the nose. That means moving the gun hand from the holster over to the center of the body. If the arm is held free and not touching the body, the gun is influenced far less by body position. In fact, this position very closely resembles that assumed by a boxer—with the left foot forward and in a crouch. The knees are flexed slightly and the weight is evenly distributed on both feet. The shooter can move from either direction, and a person in this stance is less likely to be knocked off his feet by a shot.

It seems to help a great deal if the opposite hand is held in virtually the same position as the gun hand, as this tends to place the shoulders square with the target. Too, the left hand is there to receive the gun and keep on firing in case the shooter is wounded in the other arm. If the left arm is permitted to sag, it tends to pull the gun low and left.

In shooting from this position, the elbow should be kept well in—as near behind the gun as possible. When firing rapidly, double action, from this position, the gun merely dances. When the elbow is not in alignment with the gun, the recoil tends to push the gun backward with each shot and causes the shots to go farther and farther to the low left.

We use white silhouette targets with black lines to show the outline of a man in shooting position. This makes it possible for both the student and instructor to see the hits as they pass through the target. If the shots are too low or high, they can be brought into the center by careful movement of the body at the waist.

We also teach revolver shooting in a prone position. It affords a steady position while presenting a small target to the opponent. The position varies from the rifle position in that both arms are extended full length in front of the face and feet are together instead of being spread apart. The gun is held in one hand and gripped in the usual manner. The other hand is turned palm upward and used as a base of support with the hand holding the gun resting in it. The gun should be directly in front of the face and as far away as possible—revolver sights are not intended to be held close to the eyes.

For our qualification course, we have adopted the FBI Practical Pistol Course, which I believe is about the best all-around pistol course for law-enforcement (*Continued on page* 49)

Abdul The Fearful

By C. CLARK

THE LONG AND COLORFUL PAGEANT of ardent and expert handgunners includes the famous and the infamous, the great and near great. Pirates and poets rub elbows with police officers and potentates. Men in buckskin and lace stand alongside men in sack suits and cutaways, and men of high honor stand beside men of no honor at all in this historic galaxy.

From the day of the flintlock down to this day of modern, finely machined, highly accurate weapons, men of high estate and low have loved handguns and sought to excel in their use—sometimes for the oddest of reasons. Benvenuto Cellini was a pistol-man, and one of well-nigh miraculous skill—by his own statements. *("Shutyng Notes from The Memoirs of Benvenuto Cellini," RIFLEMAN, March, 1944.)* Lord Byron, immortalized for his skill as a poet and lover, was no less skillful with pistols. He was a two-gun man, and his mad pranks with his pistols were well on a par with his other doings. *("Pistol Packin' Poet," RIFLEMAN, July, 1944.)* Napoleon, too, was a shooter, prone to practice with his pistols at targets ranging from peacocks in the palace grounds to a donkey at Elba.

One of history's most notorious figures who, on many occasions, proved himself uncommonly adept with the handguns, and who certainly rates a place in this gallery was the late Abdul Hamid II, who ruled Turkey with an iron hand from 1876 to 1909.

Abdul, the Red Sultan ("the Great Assassin," as Prime Minister Gladstone of Britain called him), was the self-styled "Lord of Two Continents and Two Oceans, the Shadow of the Most High, Protector of Kings, and a True Believer." He was a true believer, too, in a fast draw—and with good reason!

Born September 21, 1842, Abdul was the second son of Abdul Mejid, Turkey's Sultan from 1839 to 1861. Abdul Hamid was a pale, silent, melancholy boy with about every fault in the calendar. He was moody, distrustful, cunning, and intensely superstitious. He had an inveterate hatred of Christians and an abnormal love of money. As a youth, he had a private allowance of $5,000 a month, but his contacts on the Turkish Bourse enabled him to piece out this pittance with some handsome profits when his country's currency was juggled.

Like every other Turkish ruler, he spent his childhood in an atmosphere of intrigue and treachery. Polygamy means large families, and the palace and harem competition for first-place honors in the son-and-heir stakes was distinguished more often than not by infanticide. Lucky indeed was the court favorite's child who succeeded in living even a few weeks.

Even inside the immediate family, the competition was ruthless and bloody. When Murad III died, in 1594, he left eighteen sons. When the eldest ascended the throne as Mahomet III, he promptly had his seventeen brothers strangled and buried with their father.

Abdul had all this in mind as he buckled on the Sword of Othman in August, 1876, at the age of thirty-four, to become Abdul Hamid II. He was Turkey's thirty-fourth ruler—and he remembered, too, that seventeen of his predecessors had died by poison or strangulation. To Abdul, being Lord of Two Continents and Two Oceans meant living in constant fear of an assassin.

Small wonder, then, that Abdul spent his life getting rid of suspected enemies, or that he built up a spy system within the Turkish Empire the like of which not even Himmler ever equalled. Small wonder, either, that he became fanatically attached to and fantastically expert with weapons—pistols for the most part—to be used in self-defense in case his other precautions failed.

Abdul made his permanent residence in Constantinople's Yildiz Kiosk, built by one of his predecessors on a hill over-

looking the Bosporus. During his lifetime, he extended the palace by ruthlessly appropriating nearby property, including a couple of Christian cemeteries. With an inner and an outer wall, the Kiosk housed Abdul's thousand queens, concubines, and dancing girls—and the Imperial Palace Guard of 7,000 men. Fantastic are the stories of life at Yildiz, where the retainers are said to have eaten a ton of butter a day—where a private zoo housed lions, tigers, and elephants, and a private aviary held 20,000 pet pigeons—and where Abdul's prize herd of

Abdul Hamid, "Lord of Two Continents and Two Oceans, Shadow of the Most High, Protector of Kings, and True Believer"—Turkey's pistol-packin', potentate from 1839 to 1861—was a man of many fears, with a gun for every fear! He believed in shooting first and asking questions later . . . and what he shot at—he hit!

Jersey cows were fed on Anatolian pears! Abdul's wardrobe included 2,000 waistcoats, trunkfuls of ties, mountains of socks and collars. In one room he had a million dollars worth of diamonds and rubies, sackfuls of coins, and chestfuls of bank notes—and 20,000 keys!

But, in spite of an income of $2,000,000 a year and a private fortune of $60,000,000, Abdul was an imprisoned potentate. As his despotism grew, so did his fears. He was afraid of everything. He took elaborate precautions against fire. Fearful of earthquakes, he had the palace extended so that eleven bedrooms were built on solid rock. Afraid of lightning, he had even the palace chairs grounded. Afraid of assassination, he ate only specially prepared food and drank water from a specially guarded spring. If he ordered a bed made up in one room, he slept in another. He wouldn't allow electric lights in the palace because a pulled switch might mean total darkness; but every night the outside of the palace and grounds was bathed in floodlit brightness.

Despite his precautions, Abdul still felt unsafe. He had to meet his councillors—and one of them might have a gun. So—he took up pistol shooting. Day after day he practiced in the palace grounds at stationary and moving targets. He practiced quick draw from the pocket, and shot with either hand. Eventually, he was proficient enough to write his initials with a .38 on planking at twenty-five yards, in fairly quick time. Working up to aerial targets, his servants were kept busy tossing oranges in the air for Abdul to hit. He practiced until his performance was faultless.

But what was he to do if, by chance, he didn't have a gun in his pocket when danger threatened? With this thought in mind, he bought a thousand revolvers and had a loaded gun tucked in the corner of every divan, chair, and palace nook. This way, with a bit of care as to where he sat or stood, he would always have a gun within reach!

Obsessed with the idea of assassination, he couldn't bear a sudden or rapid movement near him. At a state banquet, a guest's sudden movement would cause Abdul's hand to fly to his pocket. His Ministers had to meet him in the Council Chamber with their hands folded in front of them. Sadyk Pasha, a former Grand Vizier, was dismissed because he put his hand in his pocket to get out a document.

On one occasion, while the Sultan was at his daily prayers, a favorite nine-year-old child casually picked up one of the ever-present revolvers. Before she could cock it, Abdul had wrenched it out of her hand. Not only did Abdul seize the weapon—but he had the palace guards thrash the child to try to find out if the act was part of a prearranged plot!

As the years went on, Abdul's despotic rule turned Turkey into a slaughterhouse, and he appalled the Christian world by ordering the massacre of Arabs in Arabia, Greeks in Crete, Albanians in Mount Lebanon, and Armenians in Erzeroun. With a stroke of the pen, he caused the murder of 20,000 Yezides east of the Tigris.

Living on the reports of spies and informers, the shambling, pasty-faced dictator relied far more confidently on his own unerring skill with a pistol. Walking the palace garden one day, deep in his tyrannical thoughts, he was startled by a gardener who straightened suddenly from his task of trimming a small hedge. Abdul's movement to his pocket was but a split second ahead of the report of the gun he drew—and the inoffensive hedge trimmer slumped to the ground with a bullet through his heart. The sudden movement of one of his own children in the palace had a similar ending. He never allowed his picture to be taken, lest there be a gun in the camera. Thousands of mirrors throughout the palace enabled him to keep watch for plotters. He knew who was in every room before he entered it. His whole life was a nightmare of fear and suspicion.

As time went on, conditions in Turkey became more and more chaotic. Abdul, now a wizened and weary old man, shuffled through the corridors of Yildiz, surrounded by grafters and sycophants—and by his women. In the latter years of his reign, the Society for Union and Progress spread its membership through the Turkish Army and the clamor for constitutional government ended when Husni Pasha, Commander of the First Division of the Macedonian Army, fought his way into Constantinople, surrounded Yildiz Palace, and, on April 27, 1909, strode into the Council Chamber at the head of a liberation committee and requested Jevad Bey, the Sultan's First Secretary, to announce his visit.

Jevad Bey refused. He said, "The Sultan is short tempered with those who bring him bad news—and this news is bad! I do not wish to be his target!"

"I, too, can kill you," Husni said curtly. "And I will if you don't obey me!"

Fifteen minutes later, the liberators faced a trembling old man whose hands, deep in his pockets, clutched two revolvers, and whose ferrety old eyes flicked from face to face. But it was too late now. This time somebody had the drop on him—and, this time, it was the whole Turkish nation.

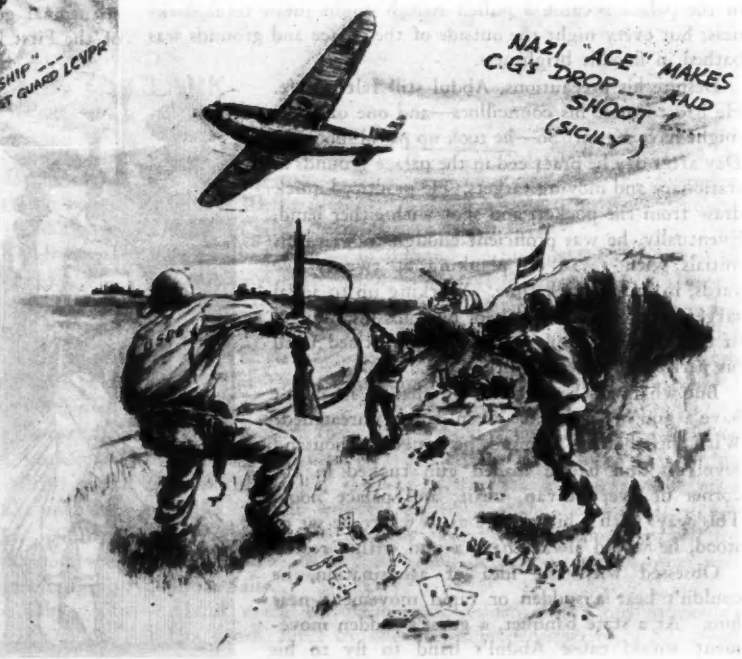
Given thirty minutes to pack, Abdul the Damned was banished to Salonika. He died on February 11, 1918, at the age of seventy-six. ♦ ♦ ♦

A COAST DRAWS

COMBAT ART REACHED a new high, both in quantity and quality, in the great war just ended. In the Army, in the Navy, and in the Marine Corps, artists—some of them professionals in civilian life, many of them not—wielded pencil and brush in odd moments to supplement the grand work of combat photographers in recording a pictorial history of the war.

The Coast Guard, too, had its artists who toted pencils or crayons, or boxes of water colors in addition to their more deadly weapons . . . and THE RIFLEMAN is pleased to present on these two pages some of the drawings made under fire by a talented young Coast Guardsman who saw action in the Mediterranean, Atlantic, and Pacific operations. Working often under strenuous conditions, with Jerry guns and planes and Jap snipers and mortars providing lethal diversions, Bruno Eigallo, Italian-born American Coast Guardsman who commanded a landing barge carrying troops and supplies to beachheads in Sicily, in the Gilberts, on Kwajelein, and Eniwetok, made scores of vigorous drawings graphically depicting the lot of fighting men in action and out of it.

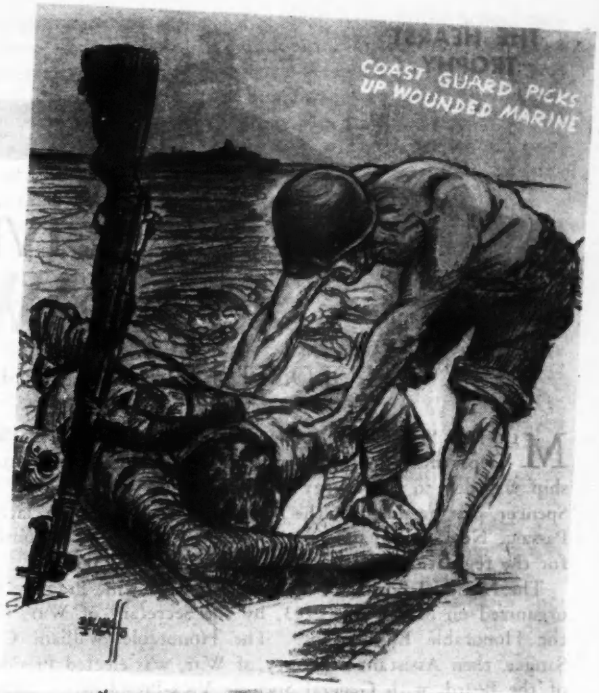
Outstanding among these drawings released by the U. S. Coast Guard for RIFLEMAN publication are—the battle-weary Marine and his buddy (lower right, opposite page) as the artist saw him on the beach at Eniwetok; the three Coast Guardsmen



GUARDSMAN FIRE.....

(center, right) whose very postures betray their startled indecision as the first burst of enemy fire greets them; and the grimly vivid sketch of the interrupted poker game on a Sicilian beach. . . . Of the latter drawing, Figallo says, "Every time I'd get a high pair, that Nazi thus-and-such would come over, clippin' the grass tops, with all guns blazing—and everybody'd drop their cards and reach for a gun! He cost me plenty!" . . . This particular drawing, incidentally, was made with a fountain pen, using sea water to moisten the paints.

Of himself, Figallo says, "I was born sole heir to Rose and Cornelius Figallo, September 22, 1921. Like Columbus, I first saw the light in Genoa, Italy; but, unlike Columbus, I was only five years old when mother and I left Italy to join my father in America. We settled in Washington. I studied art under Jim Berryman (plug) and under E. R. McCurdy, poster expert for Warner Brothers. . . . Sicily was rugged. The sea that first day was the roughest I ever saw it. The Jerry bombing and strafing weren't nice, either. We were on the beach two days and nights, under plenty of fire. . . . Our next invasion was Makin Island, in the Gilberts. After that, Kwajelein and Eniwetok, in the Marshalls, where we hit three islands in five days. . . . This is 'The Story of My Life, or You, Too, Can Be Beautiful!' Has anybody got a job?" ♦ ♦ ♦



THE HEARST TROPHY

Civilian Marksmanship In the War Department

By COLONEL EMERALD F. SLOAN

Colonel Sloan, Executive Officer of the National Board and Director of Civilian Marksmanship, 1931 winner of the National Rifle Championship of America, holds 354 medals and trophies from rifle, pistol, and shotgun competition, and has a long record of ROTC, National Guard, Reserve, and Regular Army service. He is also a Director and Executive Committeeman of the National Rifle Association.

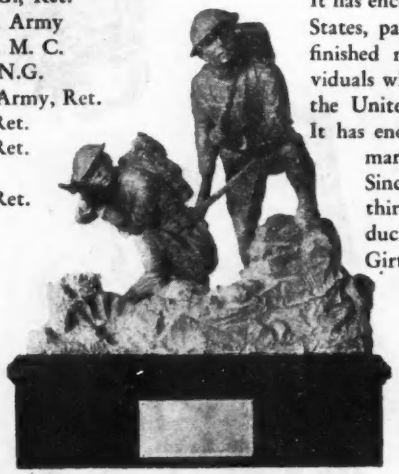
MUCH OF THE CREDIT for interesting Congress and the War Department in the instruction of citizens in marksmanship was due to the energy and wisdom of General Bird W. Spencer, past president of the National Rifle Association, late of Passaic, New Jersey. General Spencer was largely responsible for the regulations that established the National Board.

The National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice was organized on March 31, 1903, by the Secretary of War, then the Honorable Elihu Root. The Honorable William Cary Sanger, then Assistant Secretary of War, was elected President of the Board, with General Spencer Vice-President.

The National Board consists of not more than twenty-one members appointed by the Secretary of War from representatives of the military forces and from the country at large. The present members of the Board are:

The Under Secretary of War, Honorable Kenneth C. Royall
Lieutenant General Courtney H. Hodges, U. S. Army
Major General John F. Williams, Chief, Nat'l Guard Bureau
Major General Milton A. Reckord, U. S. Army
Major General George A. Lynch, U. S. Army, Ret.
Major General Winfield S. Price, N.J.N.G., Ret.
Brigadier General Guy H. Drewry, U. S. Army
Brigadier General L. W. T. Waller, U. S. M. C.
Brigadier General Whittier S. Bird, Ohio N.G.
Brigadier General George C. Shaw, U. S. Army, Ret.
Brig. Gen. F. M. Waterbury, N.Y.N.G., Ret.
Col. Francis C. Endicott, U. S. Army, Ret.
Col. Oliver S. Wood, U. S. Army, Ret.
Capt. Henry G. Hemingway, U.S.C.G., Ret.
Col. Emerald F. Sloan, U. S. Army
Col. Francis W. Parker, Jr., Ord. Reserve
Lt. Col. W. A. Stiles, U. S. Marine Corps
Lt. Col. C. H. Brown, Infantry Reserve
Maj. L. E. Hudgins, U. S. Marine Corps
Judge Hilliard Comstock.

The National Board is generally responsible for recommending to the Secretary of War reasonable rules and regulations for (a) instruction of able-bodied male citizens of the United States in marksmanship; (b) the promotion of practice in the use of rifled arms, the maintenance and management of matches or competitions in the use of such arms, and the issuance in connection therewith, of the necessary ammunition and targets, and other supplies and appliances, and the awarding to competitors of trophies, prizes, and badges; (c) the conduct of National Matches; and (d) conduct of rifle and pistol competitions in schools and colleges.



THE INFANTRY TROPHY, presented in 1922 for annual competition in a Combat Problem Team Match, last won (1940) by the Coast Guard. THE HEARST TROPHY (top of page) is a priceless 17th Century Spanish flintlock, inlaid and chased, donated by Wm. Randolph Hearst for the ROTC boy scoring highest in the National Individual Match. First offered in 1940.

Since 1903, the National Board has rendered valuable assistance in the development of ordnance material and ammunition. It has encouraged rifle practice throughout the United States, particularly in the direction of qualifying as finished marksmen and instructors, countless individuals who are called upon to serve in wars in which the United States has participated since that time. It has encouraged and held national competitions in marksmanship between teams and individuals. Since the organization of the National Board, thirty-two National Matches have been conducted. The first of these matches was at Sea Girt, New Jersey, in 1903. The Matches of 1905 and 1906 were also at Sea Girt. In 1904, the Match was held at Fort Riley, Kansas. In 1915 and 1916, they were held in Jacksonville, Florida; and, in 1919, in Caldwell, New Jersey. All other National Matches have been held at Camp Perry, Ohio. The first of the meetings at Camp Perry was held in 1907, the last in 1941.

In the first Matches, held in 1903, participation was limited to teams from the Regular Services and State National Guard organizations. Fifteen such teams were entered. The National Individual

Rifle and Pistol Matches were inaugurated in 1904, with 187 entries in the rifle and thirty-eight in the pistol.

With the passage of the National Defense Act in 1916, participation of civilian teams from each state was authorized and a Small Arms Firing School became an important part of the National Match Program. The National Pistol Team Match was inaugurated in 1920, with thirty-six teams firing. In 1939, there were 128 entries in the rifle team match, thirty-three in the pistol team match, 2,037 in the National Individual Rifle Match, and 622 in the National Individual Pistol Match.

The National Championships of the National Rifle Association have been an important part of the National Match program from the beginning. In 1940, there were ninety-one NRA Matches: Twenty-four .30 caliber rifle; thirty-three pistol and revolver; and thirty-four small bore rifle.

The Matches sponsored by the War Department consist of the National Trophy Rifle Team, the National Trophy Individual Rifle, the National Trophy Infantry Team, the National Trophy Pistol Team, and the National Trophy Individual Pistol Match. During the forty-two years since the adoption of the National Matches, many National Trophies have been accumulated, and these trophies are presented to the winning teams or individuals. The winners retain possession of the original trophy for one year and are given miniature replicas thereof for their permanent possession. The Small Arms Firing School curriculum includes both rifle and pistol instruction, and those successfully completing the course receive a certificate of proficiency showing them to be qualified instructors. In addition to the above instruction, there has been a Police Officers' School and a Junior Rifle School for boys and girls under nineteen. From these schools, thousands of our finest marksmen and instructors have been graduated.

The Office of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship was established in 1916 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the National Defense Act which authorized the issue of certain War Department equipment to schools and civilian rifle clubs organized in accordance with regulations approved by the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice. The Director of Civilian Marksmanship has charge of the sale of small-arms equipment used in target practice, to civilian riflemen, members of the National Rifle Association, as authorized by the National Defense Act and by the regulations of the National Board. The issue of Army qualification badges to civilians is another one of the duties performed by the D.C.M.

Three classes of applicants may receive assistance from the Director of Civilian Marksmanship: i.e., schools, senior rifle clubs, and junior rifle clubs organized for target practice.

Schools, in order to receive the benefits, must maintain dur-

1. CUSTER TROPHY, to National Individual Pistol Champion.
2. PERSHING TROPHY, to highest individual, National Rifle Team Match.
3. GOLD CUP, National Pistol Team Trophy.
4. DANIEL BOONE TROPHY, winner National Trophy Individual Rifle Match.
5. MINUTEMAN TROPHY, winners National Rifle Team Match.
6. NATIONAL TROPHY, winners National Trophy Rifle Team Match.
7. MARATHON TROPHY, highest civilian team, National Rifle Team Match.
8. HILSTON TROPHY, winners Service Teams Championship Matches.

Winners hold original trophies until next National Match; are awarded miniature replicas for their permanent possession.

ing the entire school year a uniformed corps of cadets, at least forty in number, above the age of fourteen years. They must have an adequate course in military training and must conduct target practice in accordance with the regulations prescribed by the National Board. One rifle, U. S. Caliber .30 Model 1917, per cadet, and one .22 caliber rifle per five cadets up to ten such rifles; 120 cartridges of caliber .30 per cadet above fourteen years of age firing (but not to exceed 12,000 rounds per school), and 150 cartridges caliber .22 Long Rifle per cadet firing (but not to exceed 15,000 per school) are authorized for issue. Targets and other necessary accessories are likewise issued.

Applications for assistance must be submitted to the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, War Department, Washington, D. C., by the President or Principal of the school through the Adjutant General of the State or Territory. This application must have the approval of the Adjutant General of the State or Territory, and that of the Superintendent of Schools or Chairman of the Board of Trustees or other governing body of the school.

Senior rifle clubs, in order to receive benefits, must be enrolled with the Office of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship with a membership of at least ten physically fit male citizens above the age of eighteen years. These must be civilians who are not eligible to receive federal aid for this activity from any other source. Clubs must maintain affiliation with the National Rifle Association, and must carry on target practice as prescribed.

Two rifles, U. S. Caliber .30 M1903, may be issued to such clubs whose members participating in rifle practice does not exceed twenty-five. If more than twenty-five members participate, one additional rifle may be issued for each additional ten (or fraction thereof), such members, not to exceed eight to any club. Two U. S. .22 rifles per club, and 120 cartridges, caliber .30, per member firing (but not to exceed 12,000 per club), and 100 cartridges, caliber .22 Long Rifle, per member firing (but not to exceed 10,000 per club) are authorized for issue, in addition to targets and other necessary accessories.

RATTLESNAKE TROPHY, to the highest Naval Reserve, Marine Reserve, Organized Reserve, or American Legion team in the National Rifle Team Match. Held by the USMCR.

Junior rifle clubs, in order to receive benefits, must be enrolled with the Office of the D.C.M., must (a) maintain membership of at least ten physically fit male citizens, between fourteen and eighteen years of age who are not eligible to receive federal aid for this activity from any other source; (b) must be sponsored by a responsible male citizen above the age of twenty-one years, who will serve as chief supervisor and instructor; (c) must maintain affiliation with the National Rifle Association; (d) must conduct small-arms practice and fire the junior small-bore qualification course designed by the Director of Civilian Marksmanship. Two .22 caliber rifles may be issued to such clubs where the number of members who participate in target practice does not exceed ten. If more than ten members participate, one additional rifle may be issued for each additional five members, not to exceed ten to any club. Four hundred cartridges, caliber .22 Long Rifle, per member firing (not to exceed 40,000 per club) are authorized for issue to each junior club, in addition to targets and other accessories necessary for the conduct of target practice.

In order to receive the issue of nonexpendable equipment schools and clubs must furnish a surety bond, provide for secure storage of the equipment, pay all transportation charges, and have suitable range facilities. They must submit, at the close of each calendar year, (1) an annual inventory of U. S. property, and (2) an annual report of firing.

Qualification badges (or certificates in lieu thereof), Marksman, Sharpshooter, or Expert, are issued to all individual members of schools and clubs qualifying on the authorized course.

The number of schools and clubs that may receive free issues is limited by annual appropriations. The Director of Civilian Marksmanship instructs and may aid 2,300 civilian senior and junior rifle clubs, and 125 schools organized for practice with rifle arms.

It has been the practice since 1925 to appoint the same officer to serve both as Executive Officer of the National Board and Director of Civilian Marksmanship. Colonel E. F. Sloan is presently assigned to these offices with two principal assistants, Mrs. Sigler and Miss Roberts. ◆ ◆ ◆

Youngsters of both sexes learn self-discipline and sportsmanship as well as skill in a top-ranking American sport through participation in the Civilian Marksmanship Training Program. *Below:* A triangulation test. Learning to sight correctly over a fixed, unloaded gun.

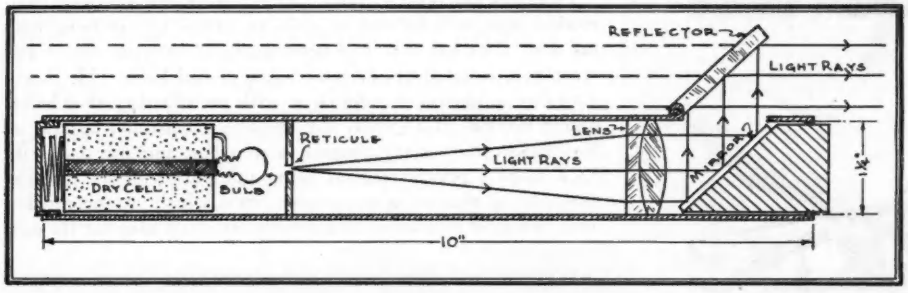
"JACK RABBIT" SIGHT

By MAJOR DEWITT N. MORGAN

THIS SIGHT, adapted from the military reflector type, was devised for jack-rabbit shooting under poor lighting conditions. A favorite pastime of mine and of a few shooting friends the past few months has been knocking over jacks in the sparsely populated areas bordering the Great Salt Lake. A five-minute drive from the reservation to this shooting area can be negotiated after working hours; but results were rather discouraging at first, for we rarely got more than one or two good shots before the vanishing daylight made it impossible to use conventional iron or telescopic sights. Before dusk, jacks have an irritating habit of making themselves scarce.

In order to overcome this handicap, it was decided that a self-luminous type of sight was in order. A telescope with illuminated cross hairs was first considered, but that idea was discarded in favor of the reflector sight, which, in addition to having an illuminated reticule, gave an unobstructed field of view. Both features were deemed ideal for twilight shooting.

With this objective in mind, scrap material (including an achromatic lens, aluminum tubing, mirror glass, and plastic strips) was collected over a period of several weeks and finally fabricated, with the results pictured herewith. This design is basically that of the reflector sight used for aircraft-mounted armament. Instead of the components being strung out in a vertical manner, however, the lens, mirror, reticule, light source, etc., were rearranged slightly and mounted in a long tube to give the compactness and simplicity of a telescopic sight. Such an arrangement gives a sight line close enough to the barrel for practical small-arms firing. In this particular model, the center of the reflector is approximately two and one-half inches above the center of the bore—the tube itself being one and one-quarter inches in diameter.

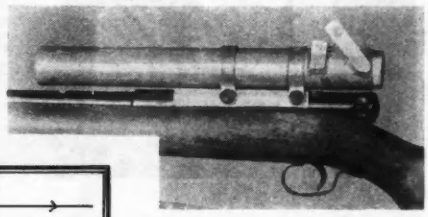


For those readers who are unfamiliar with this type of sighting device, the accompanying diagram may prove helpful. It represents the essential features of the model under discussion.

The manner in which this optical system functions is as follows: A reticule, consisting of a transparent cross etched on a piece of glass made otherwise opaque by a coating of black paint, is mounted a distance from the lens equal to its focal length. Light, furnished by a bulb and two small dry cells, passes through the reticule and is collimated by the lens so that the eye, if placed behind the lens would observe an enlarged image of the reticule along the axis of the tube as if it originated at a great distance (optically speaking, an infinite distance). In order to get this image of the reticule above the collimator for an unobstructed view with normal sighting facilities, recourse is had to a series of reflections; one from a rectangular piece of optically plane glass (the reflector and in this instance, transparent plastic) located just above the tube and parallel to the mirror surface. An observer looking through the reflector from the rear, as shown in the diagram, sees the image of the reticule as if it were originating at an infinite distance. It should be noted that artificial illumination of the reticule is absolutely necessary.

The advantages of this sighting device are two: Absolutely unobstructed field of view, since the reticule is formed on a glass window; and a reticule located far enough from the shooter that the target and reticule are in the same focal plane and both in clear focus for a given eye accommodation.

This sight is attached to a Winchester Model 74 by means of a mount constructed along the lines of the Weaver T-mount for which the receiver had been previously drilled and tapped. These holes, together with the original screws, were utilized for the present mounting.



Homemade reflector sight with illuminated reticule makes twilight hits easy.

Adjustment of windage and elevation for sighting-in purposes is very simple. To adjust for elevation, the plastic reflector is rotated about its two base-screw attachments the necessary amount, then anchored securely in place by a third screw passing through a rigid strip of metal, as shown in the photograph. Rotation of the reflector changes the elevation, since the reticule image rotates with the reflector.

Lateral deflection of the reticule image is accomplished by rotating the mirror, which is mounted on the solid metal plug protruding from the rear of the tube. Clockwise rotation of the mirror gives deflections to the right; counterclockwise rotation gives deflections to the left.

The outfit was bore sighted in a dimly lighted room, since the illumination provided by the small dry cell and bulb cannot compete with daytime lighting conditions. When field tested at short ranges, no further readjustments seemed necessary.

Although no accuracy tests were performed, gun and sight seem to keep all shots at least within a one-inch circle at twenty yards. This sight suffers from parallax. In other words, if the eye is not placed exactly at the same place every time, the reticule is susceptible to a slight shift, which will result in corresponding deviations in point of impact for a series of shots. For a small reflector and with the reticule and lens carefully positioned with respect to each other, this effect is negligible under the above-mentioned shooting conditions. ♦ ♦ ♦

HANDICAPPED

I had no shoes and I complained—
Until I met a man who had no feet. . . .
Arabian Proverb.

"AMERICAN BATTLE CASUALTIES are being returned to their homeland at the rate of 40,000 per month." So says the news. A lot of those boys have earned their Purple Hearts the hard way, losing some physical faculty—an arm, a leg—in the process. All of them will be trained to overcome these handicaps sufficiently to master postwar bread-and-butter jobs; but what about their sports? Especially, what about those who think that fishing or hunting is the nearest approach to Heaven offered mortals? Is that a closed chapter in their lives?

Thousands of grateful communities are making concrete plans to permanently honor returning veterans, men and women. Some of these memorials are in the nature of community parks, swimming pools, halls, and the like. But those communities that contain a strong outdoor element are offering memorials dedicated to the boys who love the whip of a fly rod, or the balance of a shooting iron. Such living memorials of shooting or fishing grounds say to the returning veteran, "This is for *you*—from your friends." But—do they say that to the crippled veteran? Or does he say, "That's very fine—but not for me?"

From my boyhood I recall a Great Northern Railway locomotive engineer who used to make an annual trip to hunt with my dad. His left arm had been shattered between elbow and wrist and, in its stead, he wore a shiny steel hook. He shot a 12 gauge automatic—and shot it with such facility that he required no odds at all from any shooting companion because of his "handicap." Many times I've seen him and my dad walk back from a prairie chicken point and put from six to eight chickens in the democrat wagon from which we operated—and then scold each other on a completely equal basis for the ones

Top: **Still-hunting squirrels is an almost-forgotten art, but it will bag plenty of game . . . and it requires no legs. All you have to do is sit.** ***Center:*** **From a hilltop stand, a woodchuck hunter can command dens in the valley or on the opposite slope. Chucks don't expect danger from the sky.** ***Bottom, left:*** **With a carcass out in front for bait, this ambush yielded 49 crows, two coyotes, and a fox.**

Nursing a wrenched knee but still able to harvest jacks as they race past from cornfield to thicket.

HUNTERS

By BERT POPOWSKI

that got away. The engineer was a whole man in the hunting field, and he knew it and gloried in it.

Many hunters are "grooved." That is, they've always hunted one way and don't know how to change. They've always hunted ducks over decoys so, to them, there's no other way in which ducks can be hunted. If the ducks do not decoy, the day is a washout. But there are other ways—they are what I call armchair hunters and they'll never have the fun that a hunter who explores all the possibilities will enjoy. For it is the unexpected hunting bonanza that stays longest and freshest in memory.

For instance, the field shooting of mallards and pintails is a well-developed sport in the Midwest, though comparatively few hunters know much about it. It requires no special equipment. All you have to do is scout the flocks of feeding birds, plant a few silhouette decoys in a spot in the field within good gun range of available cover, and wait for the birds to come in. If a stiff wind blows, the birds often sweep down on the concealed hunter within a few feet of the ground and getting two or three birds out of each flock depends only on good gun pointing.

Geese, too, can be hunted the same way. And of all species of geese, the burly Greater Canadas decoy most readily—if they've fed once or twice in the field before. And, in spite of popular opinion to the contrary, it is seldom necessary to dig a pit from which to shoot. Hunters can bed down in relatively slight cover if they locate their stand just beyond the windward side of a slight knoll. The birds come in upwind and the natural bulge of the ground conceals the hunters until the big birds drop their black landing gear preparatory to pitching in among the decoys.

In field shooting of both ducks and geese, it is a smart hunter who includes both duck and goose decoys in his setup, just as in decoy shooting of either bird over water. It seems that geese derive considerable confidence in goose decoys if there are some mallard ducks there, too. Similarly, mallards and pintails come slanting in out of the sky more readily when two or three honker decoys add their reassuring presence to the spread.

The pass shooting of all species of ducks and geese, though chiefly of the field-feeding varieties, used to be great sport. It has fallen into disuse, chiefly because the migratory bird crop has only of recent years returned to its former high. But pass shooting is rare sport, and as sporting as sport comes. All that is needed is a spot where the birds fly within gun reach: A hill under a fly way, a spot where birds fly low between some lake and the field in which they feed. When the wind is high, they come like the wind, and birds killed some thirty-five or forty yards up may be picked up a full 100 yards away, where they finish their bouncing roll.

Not all wearers of the Purple Heart can follow the suggestions Bert Popowski makes in this article; but many CAN . . . and if just one prewar outdoorsman finds new hope here for postwar enjoyment—hunters everywhere will welcome him.

The crippled hunter often collects more game than his walking brethren — just sitting still beside a waterway or natural bottleneck while they drive game past.

The point I'm making is—both of these types of hunting are wide open to the man who can no longer tramp the roughs or slog through swamps. Just because a man can't hunt the way he used to hunt doesn't mean he can't hunt. And often the new way is more exciting, more rewarding than the old.

Still hunting of squirrels and turkeys in their feeding areas is another sport that requires a minimum of movement. A hunter can bed down in a choice spot and enjoy many an hour intercepting the brush-tails as they come to harvest the fat nuts of a few isolated trees.

Turkey hunting requires more skill, especially with the call; but, once set, the hunter is immovable at his preselected spot. Even if his location is not the best in the territory, he can generally bring home his share of the bacon, because wary old gobblers may fight shy of the more popular feeding areas.

Some years ago, I accompanied my eldest and his kid friend on a cottontail hunt. For an hour or so I hunted with them—in an eight-inch fall of snow. The boys steadily gained on me and, finally, I sent them on ahead. While prospecting around for a bunny or two on my own, I came upon an ancient brush pile and proceeded to give it the works.

While leaping upon it, one leg broke through the brush and a trick knee—souvenir of college football days—had me in a writhing knot of pain while three cottontails steamed away, unmolested. When the pain subsided, the boys were out of sight and hearing and I knew they'd be gone a couple of hours. So I hobbled to the edge of a narrow, brushy run which connected a cornfield and a brambly bit of timberland.

The boys came back through the timberland, whooping and yelling—and driving rabbits before them. Out of those that steamed by through that bottleneck, I harvested four.

With the memory of that shoot fresh in my mind, I started the second week of the following autumn's pheasant season with a sprained ankle. Nothing serious, but I could not tramp the fields. Remembering how the wise old birds head for the Game Refuge as soon as guns start talking, I had my friends drop me in a roadside ditch intersecting a draw which led toward the Refuge. I sat me down on a shell box, to bring my chin just to the top of that ditch, and waited.

Came the opening hour and guns started to talk for miles around. Wise ringnecks lifted easily out of their feeding fields, and took the easy downhill way home, flying out of minor draws and into the main one in which I waited. An hour later, when the car swung around to see how I was doing, I had five cock pheasants scattered about me, not having moved more than a step in any direction for all of them.

Of course, the foregoing is an unusual case and such an ideal spot is not often encountered. But virtually all successful pheasant hunting in areas where the birds are reasonably plentiful is done by some of the hunting party walking through corn and cane fields, or shelter belts in which the birds love to laze and dust bathe, while one or more members of the party act as "stoppers" at the ends.

In this connection, especially when shelter belts are being hunted, it is a smart sportsman who parks his car in plain sight of one side of the shelter belt and then conceals himself as best he can at the opposite corner. Generally, the flying or running ringnecks see you before you see them—if you're in plain sight—and turn off out of range. But if you are well concealed, they may run up within a dozen feet before flushing.

In over twenty years of hunting, seldom a season goes by that I do not witness a dozen instances of such a "stopper" hunter, killing five birds or more at a single stand. Once, I saw two such stoppers, located at opposite corners at the end of the same grove, kill thirteen cock pheasants between them, while the three hunters who walked the grove totaled only three birds between them, one of them a hen.

Deer hunters need hardly be told of the rich rewards to be won by sitting quietly beside a favorite runway. Fox and rabbit hunters frequently send their hounds out to rout out the quarry, while they sit patiently beside the runway and bag their game. Such patient waiting is rich, too, in wildlife lore. I've seen more unusual things when quietly waiting in the midst of a game area than during all the hours I've patiently and doggedly tramped the fields and trails.

In the fields of varmint hunting with a rifle, the possibilities are almost unlimited. Much such hunting requires being located at a strategic spot from which your rifle commands a considerable area in which your targets may bob up. From such locations, in company with my two boys, I've killed many dozen woodchucks, several scores of crows, and many hundreds of prairie dogs and gophers.

South Dakota has a law which prohibits the use of firearms from a car *except* on such varmint targets as coyotes, foxes, crows, and jack rabbits. One of my very good rifle-shooting friends was instrumental in having that exception included in the law and hundreds of boys who annually hunt jack rabbits from cars for sport and profit owe him a debt of gratitude.

He is himself physically handicapped and can handle a rifle only from a seated position; yet he owns an arsenal of blued and burnished darlings that make most hunters turn green with envy. In addition, he loads all his own ammunition, casts his own lead bullets for experimental shooting, and is the best informed mind on the efficiency of bullets in flight that I know.

Last, but not least, is the fine sport of shotgun shooting of crows. For years, only a handful of hunters in these United States have participated in this royal shooting sport. Since it can be enjoyed every month of the year, in every state in the Union, it follows that many a sportsman will turn to it during the off seasons for a few hours of relaxation and for brushing up on wing shooting on a live target.

Blinds which are built in fly ways leading to the roost may be used repeatedly with but slight variation in the kill, and the equipment is unpretentious. Too, since the destruction of crows has a distinct bearing on the increase of game and insectivorous birds, it is a sportsman's duty to insure his own game supply of meat and song by lending it a hand against its worst single enemy.

There is my formula for encouraging maimed veterans to take up the threads of their hunting lives where they left off at Uncle Sam's call. If it helps a dozen of our returning warriors in tasting of the joys of the out-of-doors, I shall be grateful to them for reading it.

I can hear an occasional one of them say: "That's fine for the GI who lost one hand, I've lost both." I recall reading an article by Humorist Arthur "Bugs" Baer in which he extolled the indomitable spirit of one "Handless" George H. Sutton, a husky six-footer whose arms stopped just below his elbows, the result of a bout with a sawmill.

Handless George didn't make with the squawks. He played good billiards, and his Spencerian handwriting won him dozens of prizes. The lack of dukes didn't keep him from being a ladies' man, either. And he wore no harness or apparatus of any kind.

He repaired watches by grasping the handles of his screwdrivers with his teeth. He could and did take down and assemble his motorboat engine. He drove a car. Once, when a 200-pound *hombre* got tough with him, Handless George walked in on him with a brace of billiard balls sewed in the ends of those sleeves, split a table with two swinging billiard-ball-tipped sleeves, and offered any kind of action the big guy wanted. Needless to say, the bruiser backed away from a showdown.

Courage and determination are chiefly mental. A mind that will not allow itself to cringe before obstacles generally manages to send the body wherever it wants to go. "The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak," is a prize piece of hokum. It is an anemic spirit that cannot drive the body to the performance of its desires.

There isn't any reason in the world why you—"handicapped" though you may be—can't get out with your pet equipment, soak up some warm sunshine, sniff up a vagrant breeze or two, enjoy the hunt as much as your "whole" friends do—come back with something for the roaster or the frying pan, to boot. Try it, and see. ◆ ◆ ◆

TIS LEGAL

Ever since Grandma Gutenberg labeled her mince pies TM ("tis mince") and the other pies TM ("tain't mince"), typographical errors have plagued all publishers.

Last month, we quoted War Department Basic Field Manual 23-7, dated May 20, 1942, which states that the M1 carbine's barrel is 17.75 inches long. We pointed out that a barrel of that length would make the carbine illegal under the National Firearms Act.

It now appears that the statement in the aforesaid Manual is a typographical error. War Department Basic Field Manual 23-7, April 23, 1944, corrects the error by stating that the carbine's barrel is eighteen inches long.

So the carbine (except the full-automatic models) does not fall under the National Firearms Act, after all.

But, to repeat—who cares? It's not a weapon of much use to sportsmen, anyway.

CRYSTAL GAZING AT THE SHOTGUN OF TOMORROW

By E. K. McCONNELL

I AM NOT A PROPHET, nor has the firearms manufacturing fraternity seen fit to give me a preview of their plans; but mechanical design usually follows public demand and this in turn is moulded by existing conditions. Let's look at both those factors and see if we can wring from them some idea of what tomorrow's shotgun may be.

It is a sure bet that when the boys come home we will have a big increase in the number of gun-minded citizens. It is almost equally certain that we (and they) will have shorter working hours and more leisure, and rapidly expanding transportation facilities. These factors will mean more hunters. An increase in the number of hunters will create a tremendous pressure on our wild game, with an attendant increase in game management and conservation measures.

It seems probable, therefore, that the fire power of autoloading and repeating shotguns, recently cut from five shots to three, will be still further reduced to two-shot capacity. If and when this takes place, it will mark the beginning of the decline in popularity of these two favorite shotgun types since a two-shot magazine arm would have no advantage over the standard double-barrel arm in capacity, and the double would have the decided advantages of better balance, greater simplicity, and selected boring, in addition to its lower manufacturing cost.

The above line of thought as it relates to the effect of game conditions on gun design also brings the conviction that the good old 12 gauge may soon be considered as awkward, as unnecessarily heavy, and as old-fashioned as we now consider the 10 bore to be. We can certainly look forward to better performance of the smaller-gauge shotguns. There will be improved powders and different loading techniques. As an example of what may come, there are the possibilities inherent in those thin-metal-cased loads introduced by *Fabrique Nationale* of Belgium just before the war. Even the prewar 16 gauge gun and load left little to be desired as an all-around scatter-gun. The gun of tomorrow should come even nearer to that ideal.

Assuming that the postwar shotgun trend will be definitely toward smaller-bore, double-barrel weapons, what kind of a gun can we expect our factories to turn out?

First, I think we will have new and refined over-and-under shotguns. These guns appeal particularly to the man who has used the pump or autoloader, because of the narrow single-barrel sighting plane. Second, we can expect autoejectors and single triggers to be furnished in all standard models, particularly if the forecast concerning the pump and autoloader proves correct. No one switching from these guns would be satisfied extracting empty cases with his fingers or messing around with double triggers. Third, the war has taught our manufacturers a lot about alloy metals; hence, the postwar shotgun should have stronger barrels and lighter, more perfect-working actions. Steels of chrome or molybdenum complex, beryllium copper, and alloys of aluminum and magnesium may all be used in the construction of the postwar shotgun.

It is doubtful if much change can be expected in shotgun boring. The dimensions of cone and choke seem pretty well fixed. But there again, when we remember the "Ultra Shotgun Barrel" theory as reported in THE RIFLEMAN some years ago, we wonder if the possibilities of the inside of a shotgun barrel may not yet give us startling news someday. The author of that article (H. Gerlich, Inventor of the Halger) certainly went to town with his high-velocity rifled bores.

In appearance and handling qualities, we may expect our postwar shotguns to approximate more closely the best of English or continental design. Stocks will, no doubt, be made of a variety of processed laminated woods and plastics, and will be nearly impervious to wear and weather. But King Walnut will not be altogether deposed, especially in the more expensive grades.

For the man who demands and can pay for his Purdey, Francotte, or Merkel, the old crystal gets a bit hazy. Looking hard as I can, I see nothing in prospect from those sources for a long time after the war. The British and continental makers must be pretty badly smashed up. Their artisans and engravers will be dead or scattered, and no new blood will be available in countries where every effort will have to be centered on more important work. England may make a bid for export markets with machine-made shotguns such as the B. S. A. The famous old shotgun city of Liege no doubt will be heard from again after the war. I would expect close collaboration between England and Belgium, and some real shotgun news may result. As for Germany, there will be no more Sauers, Merkels, or Remos—and, except for the marvelous engraving of their top-grade guns, no shotgun fan should mourn their passing.

But American shotgunners can look forward confidently to a postwar era of newer and better shotguns coming from the assembly lines of our undamaged and aggressive shotgun building industry. As Elmer Keith said recently, "Buy American"—and we can be pretty sure that will mean that we will be buying the best. Different, perhaps, from what was best a few years ago—but better. ◆ ◆ ◆

The Dubs START A

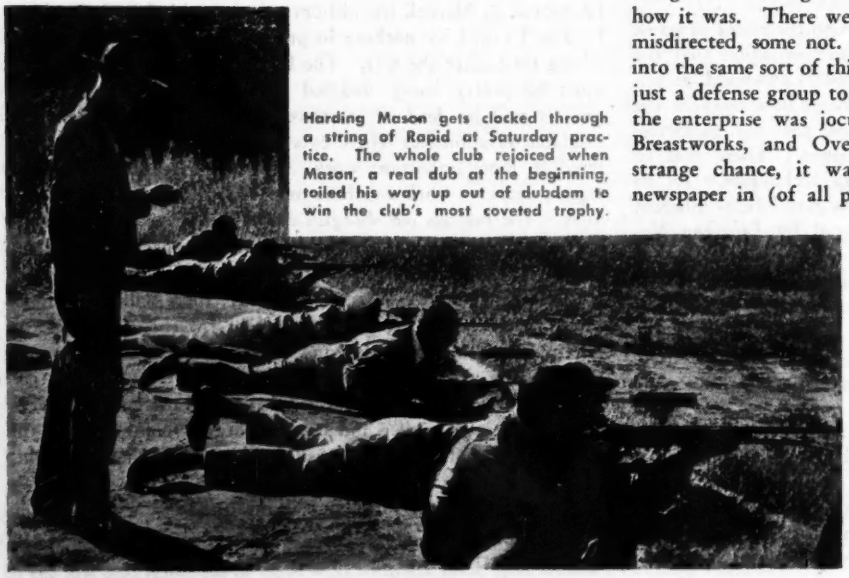
Here's a club founded and run on the novel idea that Mr. John R. Dub is a person worth considering! That policy, plus common sense and initiative, is paying dividends.

Above: Hank Brennan (later a Lieutenant Colonel with General Eisenhower) does a bit of prewar staff work. In this club, the kids shoot, too. *Below:* Snow doesn't stop war, so combat-type training braved the cold.

NORTH STAMFORD RIFLE CLUB was born in a burst of patriotic excitement. Six seasons later, it is still jet-propelled by an enthusiasm that shows no sign of abating, even now that Peace is officially here. During those years, it has brought organized shooting to a large group that had never heard of it before, prepared a lot of men for service and state guards, furnished instructors to Auxiliary Police, tied a Connecticut-New York community a little closer together—and it was fun all the way.

We were a bunch of green turkeys, all right. No one knew the first thing about shooting. We had no rifles or equipment of any kind except a few Coney Island jobs hopefully produced from neighborhood attics.

It's hard to remember, now, how stunned this country was in June, 1940, when France went down so quickly, and when it seemed that anything might happen, even here. It takes a reading of the newspaper files to recapture the frenzy of that period. A national picture magazine dated about that time shows a hastily formed group shooting at toy balloons with shotguns. Getting ready for parachutists, they were. That's how it was. There were a lot of such projects, some of them misdirected, some not. I suppose our club might have turned into the same sort of thing. We hadn't planned on a rifle club—just a defense group to "do something." In fact, at this stage, the enterprise was jocularly referred to as the "Woodchuck, Breastworks, and Overhead Menace Committee." By some strange chance, it was written up under that name by a newspaper in (of all places) Pueblo, Colorado! At any rate, our brassard still features a parachuting woodchuck.



Harding Mason gets clocked through a string of Rapid at Saturday practice. The whole club rejoiced when Mason, a real dub at the beginning, toiled his way up out of dubdom to win the club's most coveted trophy.

Jack Powell (later a Captain in the Army) and Bob Hill were the organizers. When the membership reached about twenty, they found an "instructor" in the community. This bird was a third-rate belly shooter who had once won a second-place medal at Sea Girt in a high wind and a shower of horseshoes. However, he belonged to the NRA and some clubs of the very first class—Roosevelt in New York, and Rippowam in Stamford—where he had

RIFLE CLUB

By LT. EDWARD F. CLARK, Jr.

watched people who knew how. Also, he had gobbled up every word he could find written about the rifle—books by E. C. Crossman, The Army Field Manual, and NRA publications. . . . *And* he had some equipment, including a couple of Springfields.

We decided that we would not become a self-appointed group of vigilantes, after all. We would become a rifle club with 100 per cent individual membership in the NRA, and our purpose would be to teach defense skills to *individuals*. It was the wisest decision we ever made. It kept us out of trouble with local authorities. We got invaluable help from the NRA every step of the way. In those days, whenever three men got together with rifles, somebody telephoned the F.B.I. that Bundists were on the loose. That happened to us, too, and we were glad that full details about our members were openly on file with the NRA.

Through a dealer, we located a stock of about twenty good Enfields, and members began buying them up. The decision, however, was to concentrate on small-bore training; this in spite of the fact that most of the membership was dubious that there was anything to be learned from "mouse guns." We bought, *as a club,* seven medium-priced target .22's and a couple of spotting scopes. *From that day to this, it has never been necessary for a new man to have a dime's worth of equipment in order for him to start shooting.*

We had no range yet, so we went to work on Bob Hill's meadow. The boys arrived, expecting to shoot. They were about as surprised as were Bob Hill's sheep at the subsequent proceedings. After an orientation and safety talk, came the sighting bar, triangulation, struggles with a sling, and the prone position. We learned the prone position by getting into it from a standing position. In other words, we cleared the decks for Rapid Fire the first day, and it has ever since remained the cornerstone of our training and shooting.

That went on for four Sundays, while the membership was alternately impressed and impatient. Meanwhile, we had finished the 100-yard range, staked out by member Chick Hart. He was later a Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force and did some nice staking-out over Berlin.

The grand opening was quite an event. It was celebrated by the appearance of real holes in the targets (mostly) and by the first appearance of *The Bugle,* a club newspaper which has just finished Volume VI. It has reported every Sunday score ever fired on the range, needled the loafers, encouraged

Turkey shoots were tops as club pepper-uppers. They were family affairs, with fun and matches for all, and plenty of prizes. In fact, the club's avowed policy was to lose as much in prizes as its treasury could afford.

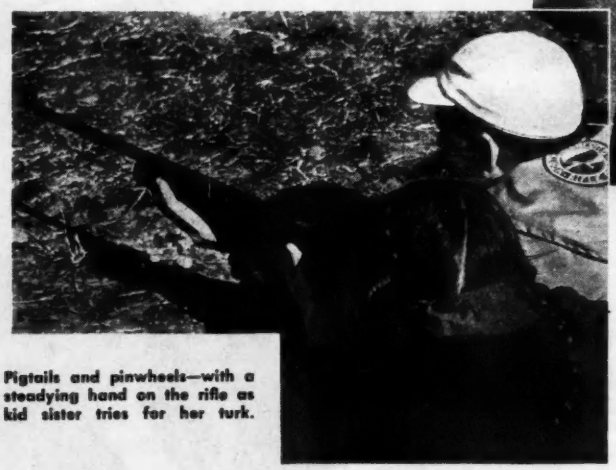
improving dubs, offered gossip, random observations, and blatherings on almost any subject that came to mind. It has always been a zany sheet, but the wives read it, too.

That range was really fun. Everybody arrived Sunday mornings before ten and set up operations. Today, we don't make our target details perform on the gallop any more, and we don't make the shooters use post front sights and military offhand. But they still shoot in squadded relays, everybody shoots a uniform course prescribed for the day by the range officer (they may shoot what they wish afterward), and *the course always includes Rapid Fire.*

Things rolled along nicely, that summer of 1940, until mid-August. Then we had a crisis.

The belly-shooting instructor had had enough sense to realize that this crowd was in no mood to be made into a bunch of belly shooters. (We have never shot a Dewar course yet, though we encourage the boys to go after the NRA prone qualification awards, and many do.) So, as soon as the prone scores got averaging ninety-five decimal, the gang was led by stages into sitting, kneeling, offhand, and, of course, Rapid Fire. Nevertheless, we began to get a sprinkling of prone possibles and ninety-nines from Doctor Agha, Hank Brennan (later a Lieutenant Colonel with General Eisenhower's SHAEF), John Towne, President Powell, and others.

A muttering arose. Were we becoming a bunch of belly shooters? Why not shoot at moving targets?



Pigtails and pinwheels—with a steadying hand on the rifle as kid sister tries for her turk.

Why not learn guerrilla tricks? Why not, suggested an officer, study how to strangle people with piano wire as explained in a popular defense book.

Piano wire, indeed! The instructor choked over that one. He had already planned a winter military program, and was currently harried by Saturday and Sunday afternoon classes for the new members who kept joining. All the same, it was clear that *something had to be done!*

The answer was—musketry. We got the landscape panorama targets from the War Department, (through the NRA), put up a 1,000-inch range, and instructed all our home-front commandos in field-target designations.

A twelve-man squad worked up to the firing line. The leader barked orders about a sniper at the base of a haystack. They poured in five shots apiece, Rapid Fire.

It was a sensation. I've never seen such a concerted rush for targets by shooters and spectators. This was their first demonstration of what directed group rifle fire can do, and it was impressive beyond words. Four years later, the instructor had the same dose poured down his throat in Infantry Basic Training—but, this time, the rifles weren't sighted in and the results weren't so impressive!

We kept it up the rest of the season as a scored, competitive, team proposition. It was an addition to the program, not a substitute. The crisis was over.

Broken back or not, a new rifle is still something to fondle—and to shoot! This gallant lady couldn't assume any of the prescribed shooting positions, but she could shoot right well from her chair—and did!

In October we got a long-awaited chance to take a group to the Connecticut State Range in East Haven. It was frightening to think how this green crowd—not one of whom had ever heard a .30-'06 go off—might louse up a big-bore range to be shared with seven experienced clubs. We drilled them on range manners and procedure until they were dizzy. They practiced the long bolt throw, and they loaded dummy clips.

When the day came, I think half of us were scared to death. There was no practice run, we were using heavy boattail stuff in '03's, and our offhand practise had been rather limited. At noon a few of the Slow-Fire scores looked shaky; Whipple, a good shot, had totals you could barely read with the naked eye. However, after a hearty lunch (which included, I suspect, a discreet issue of corn squeezin's), Whipple blazed through the Rapid brilliantly—to qualify by an eyelash. Only two men failed to make it, and there were six experts. Range manners were good. For the first time, the boys were convinced that their "mouse-gun" training would enable them to meet Army target requirements. They went home in tremendous spirits. The season was a success right then and there.

The season closed with a turkey shoot, a match with an experienced club (we won), and an annual dinner that was out of this world. The club gave its instructor a .30-'06 bull gun,

and to George Platts its President's plaque for his 140 x 150 over the "C" course then used. (George is possibly the best shot we produced. He took two years off to make Corsair planes, but he's back now.)

The foregoing account cannot convey anything of the spirit and zest which pervaded the whole enterprise. I have never seen anything like it. Several members who moved away years ago still pay dues because, they say, they are proud to belong and want *The Bugle*. *The Bugle* is, of course, delivered free to a good many temporary residents of Tokyo, Germany, and scattered points between.

The second summer limped off to rather a slow start. The war seemed far away in 1941. England was still miraculously standing alone, and no one expected parachutists for breakfast any more. A few of the worthy gentry, considering themselves Deadeye Dicks of no mean standing, were pained to find their targets plastered with eights instead of tens after a winter layoff. Several backslid into the hobbies and habits with which we always had to compete.

So—some special events were organized, and *The Bugle* rounded up the absentees with the following: "A plague on your golf clubs; a murrain on your garden; a pox on the garbage you chase at the beach; bedamned to your Saturday night's

Wally Frank, before he left his thriving pipe business to become skipper of one of Uncle Sam's destroyers, lent a helping hand to a beginner.

Saturday night, and your visiting Aunt Emma, too. Old fire horse, spavined or not, powder smoke is in the air, and you've just naturally got to get down into your sling harness and crawl up behind your rear sight this Sunday to see if you can still make it tick!"

They did.

As things improved, the club organized its first training course for nonmembers. Victims were a neighboring auxiliary police department. It was so large an undertaking that all the members had to learn how to become instructors. I am sure we got more out of it than the students, and it was invaluable preparation for the war work of the following years.

That summer we started shooting the War Department's 100-yard small-bore "E" course once in a while. It is too easy, but half of it is Rapid Fire, which fitted in well with our ideas. That big grapefruit target is ideal for training classes. It avoids the initial discouragement that the decimals give you. And an official qualification with the Government is a perfect reward for the graduating student. I think it meant more to most of them than the medals we always offered for high scores in the Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman classes. We never had a training class of our own that didn't end up with more than half of the graduates becoming permanent members of the club.

The autumn was a blaze of glory. Sundays we had all the business we could handle, and there were usually a couple of relays practicing Saturdays. We shot and won two interclub matches, had another turkey shoot, and got a big-bore day at Camp Smith.

The night before Pearl Harbor, we had the second annual dinner and patted ourselves on the back for a job which seemed to be finished. All the old officers resigned, and Art Greer, who was to spark the club until Tom McQuillon took over three years later, was elected President. He said he had been handed quite a baby. He didn't know! The history of this club through the war years is very largely the product of Greer's exceptional ability, energy, and success in enlisting willing helpers.

A few weeks after Pearl Harbor, we gave local defense authorities a combat and shooting demonstration (patterned from an *Infantry Journal* blueprint) and plunged into rifle instruction of the alert and active Company E, Stamford Auxiliary Police.

The rest of the year 1942 was a blur of instruction classes. In addition to the many auxiliary police and other defense units of nearby towns, we ran classes for the new members who began to flock in.

By summer, gasoline and ammunition got tight and we began to say good-bye to a lot of boys in uniform. Several won company or battalion rifle championships, and many wrote back how much their club training had helped them in the service.

A lot of us who were left went into state guard units. They gave us several valuable new members. In fact, whenever the club worked for another group, we got at least as much out of it as we gave.

It was amazing how attendance held up in 1943, in spite of war shortages and a new competitor—victory gardens. The victory garden program was an epidemic which used up the time of many good shooters. Naturally, we couldn't knock such a worthy program, but when rabbits finally chewed up one of the most prominent local gardens, *The Bugle* could not refrain from reporting the event in the manner of a Royal Air Force communique:

"Friday night our medium rabbits in very great strength attacked important installations of lettuce and spinach. Results were good, several rabbits being observed to burst in the heart of the target area. One of our rabbits is missing, having stepped down town for a bicarbonate of soda. Heh, heh."

The years since then have been just as full, but the basic pattern had been established. Scores got better, although we are no Rippowam yet, by any means. We had sixty-seven qualifications in 1944; 1945 returns aren't in at this writing. When a five-man Seventh Regiment Team won the championship of the Second Service Command (New York, New Jersey, and Delaware), we were pleased to note that three of the shooters wore the North Stamford Rifle Club brassard. Greer was one of them, of course. Eleanor Dunn watched the club handle a big-bore shoot at Camp Smith in 1944, and wrote the Connecticut Association that she had never seen a range so well run. All of that made us very *(Continued on page 50)*

More Women !!

By ELEANOR DUNN

YOU KNOW ABOUT WACS, WAVES, SPARS, and the Marine Corps Women's Reserves . . . but did you ever hear of Lucy Brewer? Away back in 1812, or thereabouts, Lucy Brewer disguised herself as a man, joined the Marines, and made a fine name for herself as a sharpshooter in the sea battles of that period.

Now, 133 years later, thousands of women in the various services are emulating Lucy—except that they're not in disguise, and except that they limit their shooting to paper targets. . . . And how they love it!

Since Lucy's day until quite recently, about the only woman shots were either "shooting widows" who, in desperation, borrowed her husband's oldest gun and kept him company, or lucky daughters who also inherited castoff equipment.

But not any more! All over the country, women are answering "Ready!" to the Range Officer's "Ready on the right? Ready on the left?" And they *are* ready. Ready to conduct themselves with safety and decorum on the firing line, like seasoned shooters; and ready to turn in very creditable scores indeed, not only with the .22 rifles and pistols but also with the big .30 caliber rifles and the .38 and .45 caliber handguns.

Service women in the three services that have permitted women to shoot have had the best opportunity to learn to shoot. WAVES, SPARS, and Women Marines have grasped this opportunity enthusiastically and you'll find women in uniform wherever shooting classes have been established within their reach, whether the classes are conducted by civilian instructors or by their own services. Up at Sachuest Point, Rhode Island, at the "USS Hunter" in the Bronx, at Camp Lejeune, at Quantico, at Camp Matthews in California, service women are qualifying as Marksmen, as Sharpshooters, even as Experts—and not on "reduced" courses of fire either, but over the men's courses of fire, using men's weapons. They're finding that shooting is fun, that it's one of the few sports where women can compete on even terms with men.

If it's true that a community of interests makes for happy marriage, these women will have added one new common interest in their lives with shooting husbands. Lieutenant (jg) Lota Williams, of the SPARS, having qualified Expert with the carbine, will listen with intelligent understanding to her Navy husband's talk of guns. Lieutenant (jg) Virginia Forsythe Rye and Lieutenant (jg) Ruth Van Horne Squarcy learned to shoot so they could share with their husbands in match shooting when their men return. Mrs. Rye's husband (Lieutenant Olaf

Rosalind Baker, SPAR, looks very expert as she gets into position for a practice string with a rifle. There's nothing resembling the dub about her scores, either!

National Golf Champion Patty Berg, recently Lieutenant Patty Berg of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve, is a target-shooting addict now and may be a contender in future national rifle competition.

Rye, AUS) is a fine pistol man and they are looking forward to shooting as partners in two-man-team matches.

But can a woman really shoot "partners" with a man? Well, let's see. Mrs. Rye was already a fine "rifleman," but she shot a revolver for the first time on January 9, 1945, in an NRA pistol instruction course conducted for WAVES by this writer. That was with the .22, and Mrs. Rye was very good. A week later, after the regular session, she tried five shots using a .45 caliber pistol. Every shot was in the ten-ring on the twenty-five-yard Standard American Target at fifty feet—the usual target and the usual distance for beginners.

The next time Mrs. Rye fired the .45 it was on the smaller fifty-foot Rapid-Fire target. This time every shot but one was a ten.

I determined, quite naturally I think, to train Lieutenant Rye to shoot the Navy qualification course with the .45. We used a .38 caliber at first, to give her the feel of heavier recoil and because .38 caliber ammunition was available. Captain T. G. Townsend, of New York, Coach of the Reserve Officers Pistol Team, then took over to teach her to handle the .45.

Remember, she fired her first shot from a handgun on January 9th. On St. Valentine's Day, February 14th, just thirty-six days later, Lieutenant Rye shot the Navy "D" course and qualified as Expert with the .45 pistol.

Many women are getting, in the Services, their first taste of target shooting. They love it! And, what's more, they're good!

As a result, all the WAVES in the ship's company at the USS Hunter are clamoring for pistol classes! They all want one of those Expert pistol ribbons—Navy blue with two green stripes for pistol, Navy blue with three green stripes for rifle qualification.

The first rifle class for the WAVES stationed at the USS Hunter, conducted by my brother Arthur and me, was organized in the summer of 1943 at the suggestion of Colonel Walter Stanton, Commanding Officer of the Eighth Regiment, New York Guard. Colonel Stanton, a distinguished pistol shot, allows us to use the Regiment's .22 caliber training rifles and the armory ranges. Captain William Amsden, USN, distinguished rifle marksman and Commanding Officer of the WAVE Training School, approved of the recreational rifle class and obtained ammunition for the WAVES. We used the excellent charts and instruction books published by the National Rifle Association. Since September, 1943, the demand for the class has been so constant that both rifle and pistol classes have been held without interruption except for three weeks during the worst of the hot weather in the summer of 1944. We look forward with pleasure to its continuance as long as the Naval Training School is in existence.

Navy officers and enlisted men, as well as WAVES, have joined the classes and, inevitably, people ask us to compare the shooting of the men and the girls. Our answer is that the top score made in the school rifle tests is a tie between a man, Lieutenant Joseph Nyquist, and a woman, WAVE Lieutenant June De Frees Heelan. There is no difference in the shooting ability of the sexes, and we found that women are particularly receptive to rifle and pistol teaching because they have no preconceived ideas.

Marine Corporal Margaret L. Anderson scored 100 out of a possible 100 with the .38 caliber revolver at the International Pistol Matches at Teaneck, New Jersey, last fall. She's one to watch!

WAVE Lieutenant (jg) Virginia Forsythe Rye qualified Navy "Expert" with the .45 caliber pistol just thirty-six days after firing her first shot with a pistol.

As a sign of the times, eight women shot in the 1945 New York Metropolitan 100-Yard Prone Championships, said to be the most grueling indoor shoot along the east coast. In 1944, there were four women entrants—and even this was considered remarkable. Fourteen women, seven of them service women, competed in the Metropolitan Two-Position Matches in April, 1945. Women Marines and WAVES have shot at the rifle and pistol matches held at Grumman Aircraft Gun Club, in Bethpage, Long Island, New York, and at the International Pistol Matches in Teaneck, New Jersey. At both ranges, a pretty redhead, Ex-Marine Corporal Margaret Anderson, of Spokane, Washington, then stationed at Quantico, Virginia, established national pistol records for women. One record is for a two-"man" service women's team record, shot with Corporal Dorothy Schmidt, of Warren, Pennsylvania. At Teaneck, "Andy" shot a perfect score of 100 x 100 with a .38 revolver. She will be another one to watch at the National Pistol Matches at Camp Perry.

And so it goes! Marine Sergeant Shirley Anderson Doughty, Camp Matthews, San Diego, California, won a pistol championship with a score of 98.3. . . . The shooting coach at Camp Matthews is a woman—Lieutenant Betty Bobo. The Commanding Officer of the women at Camp Matthews, Lieutenant Ruth Telander, of St. Paul, Minnesota, has qualified as an Expert with the Garand and also with the .45 caliber pistol. . . . At least four proud SPARS wear Expert pistol ribbons. Lieutenant (jg) Ruth Geertz, Executive Officer of the SPAR Barracks in the Twelfth Naval District, fired the "F" Revolver Course with an Expert score. So did Lieutenants (jg) Helen Etter, of Brownsburg, Indiana, and June Larson, of Benson, Minnesota. Seaman, First Class, Iona Weston of New Britain, Connecticut, is another Expert pistol shot. . . . WAVE Lieutenant (jg) Janet Lewis, of Garden City, New York, one of the few service women who shot before entering the service, shoots both small bore and big bore, is classified Master with the .22 rifle and Expert with the .30 caliber. . . . Marine Corporal Nancy Beasley, of Portsmouth, Ohio, team captain of the women's rifle team at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina, is another prewar shot. Her NRA rating was Expert.

Many of the girls go for .30 caliber rifle shooting and for the .38 and .45 caliber handguns, as enthusiastically as for the .22's. Seven WAVES from the Naval Training School in the Bronx, all graduates of our NRA rifle course, shot at 200 yards, prone position, using the so-called Enfields. Five of the seven scored forty-nine out of a possible fifty on either the first or second string!

So, don't say you weren't warned! There'll be "gals to the right of you, gals to the left of you" on the postwar firing lines. They won't cross fire, either; and they'll shoot scores that may surprise you.

These girls who are learning to shoot now are the mothers of tomorrow. Realizing, as they now do, the value of shooting as a sport and the importance of learning to shoot under the proper auspices, maybe they will see to it that the boys and girls of tomorrow are taught safety rules and correct shooting technique. These service women are strongly conscious, too, of the importance of National Defense—and of the part civilian shooting plays in it. The Army found that only 2 per cent of those entering this war had ever handled any kind of firearms. Let's hope that that percentage is never so low again!

And so another of the so-called strictly masculine sports is no longer that. Women are playing it, too, and playing it well. And why not? Why not teach "the little woman" to shoot with you? You'll get out shooting more often if she can go along—and, besides, she'll provide a good lunch! ◆ ◆ ◆

Corporal Nancy Beasley, NRA "Expert" with the rifle before the war, captained the Marine Women's Rifle Team at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina.

From Enfield to Sporter

(*Continued from page 13*)

ing salts" are added when the solution becomes obviously weak. This essential rejuvenator is merely sodium hydroxide and its simplest form is a can of Red Seal lye from the grocer. The boiling temperature (preferably at 285 degrees F.) is controlled by adding water.

These hot-bath solutions are alkaline to a degree that makes them blue well without preliminary degreasing. However, a simple degreasing in commercial cleaners (Licrust, Carbona, Zoric Cleaner, etc.) will avoid weakening the blueing solution too quickly. Also, the degreasing tank can be profitably used again, after blueing, to boil the parts without disturbing the salts in the other tank. Prepared salts can be had commercially in the form of Stoeger's Lightning Gun Bluer or, in greater quantity, in the less-expensive industrial forms called Lustra Black, Hough-To-Black, Heat Penetrate, Dulite, etc. The makers, or their distributors, supply complete directions with their products in order to insure the best possible results. The hot bath can also be made at home by using one part Sodium Nitrate, from the feed store, and two parts of Sodium Hydroxide, or lye in cans from the grocery store. No more than ten pounds of the nitrate and twenty of the lye are needed for the maximum (6″ x 12″ x 40″) tank, as enough water must be added to start the solution boiling at 285 degrees F. or under that.

When the solution boils furiously, put in the metal to be blued and turn down the gas flame or other heat source to keep it merely bubbling or simmering. Leave the metal in until the temperature goes up to 315 or 320 degrees F. This should take from ten to thirty minutes. If it takes longer more lye is needed. For a deep black, leave the metal in for another quarter hour while holding the solution at the final temperature mentioned.

A streaked finish indicates a weak solution and the need of more lye. Fine red hoar rust on the surface of the metal indicates the boiling temperature is too high. This rust must be scrubbed off with fine steel wool or a fine wire brush and rinsed before reblueing the metal. This condition is corrected by adding water to get the boiling temperature down to no higher than 285 degrees F. Water will cause a violent reaction, and it must be added slowly, or by trickles along a board thrust into the solution. The solution is extremely caustic, and spattering can be dangerous to the person of the operator or his clothing. The final operation, after blueing, is to boil or rinse the metal in the second tank, wipe it dry, and then rub it with oil on a swab of the finest steel wool. A cover over the tank will conserve fuel and time and will give better heat control. A ventilator hood above it and leading to the outdoors will save the operator from fumes. (*To be continued next month.*)

"A-Hunting We Will Go!"

By C. M. PALMER, Jr.

Of a group of 5,000 Marines questioned at Klamath Falls, Oregon, 65 per cent stated they wanted to hunt game with a rifle after the war. Of this same group, 60 per cent said they'd hunt game birds with a shotgun. If this is a representative sample of the armed forces idea of postwar recreation, there will be a lot of ex-G.I. Joes in the woods and fields, postwar. Well, Joe, there are a lot of worse places you might be. And there are a lot of less desirable things you might do.

Hunting, you will find, is a clean, wholesome sport founded on the finest traditions of sportsmanship, in the best American outdoor tradition. Followed in this spirit, you will experience no greater joy anywhere.

Perhaps a few pointers might be helpful.

The first requirement of the sportsman is that he secure his license to hunt. Yes, this is a free country but hunting in the USA is a democratic institution. It's not like the hunting in the old countries where only the elite are allowed the thrill of the chase. As a democratic institution, the burden of maintenance of the game supply falls on everyone who hunts. It takes a lot of game to meet the annual requirements of 12,000,000 hunters, and game doesn't "just grow." A tremendous organization, federal and state, built up over a long period of years, is charged with the development and maintenance of the game supply. The annual cost runs into many millions of dollars. The license fee is the fairest way to distribute this burden uniformly. And possession of the license is proof that you have paid your share. (Incidentally, this cost pays the salaries of a great many jobs very attractive to the outdoor man.)

The Federal Government is charged with the protection and maintenance of migratory wildfowl. So, if this is your game, be sure to go to the post office *before* you go hunting and spend a buck for the Federal "Duck Stamp." This must be affixed to your state license and bear *your* signature across its face. This "Duck Stamp" is required for the hunting of ducks, geese, and brant only. All these dollars go to the maintenance of breeding areas in the North and winter resting grounds in the deep South, and to the maintenance, along the principal lines of migratory flight, of a vast system of refuges for the protection of the birds during their travels.

So, buy your license, Joe. That's the first step. It's tough, but it's fair.

Here are some timely tips from the book of hunter's lore, addressed to the million or so men who, just returned from the grim business of stalking Nazis and Japs with military weapons, look forward to woodland days afield with sporting guns.

Know your game laws, seasons, and bag limits. In normal times a synopsis of these laws is provided with every license, but these are not normal times. However, most outdoor magazines publish the essential information along these lines every year. Study them carefully. Only the chiseler takes more than his share. Get yours; let the other guy get his.

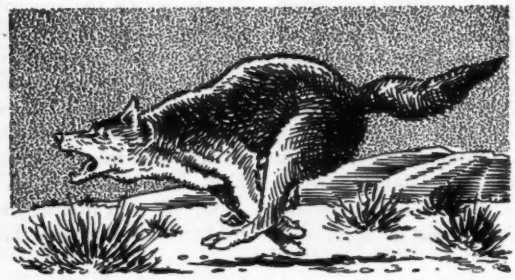
TRESPASS!

"NOTIS: Trespassers will B persecuted to the full extent of 2 mungrel dogs which neve was over sochible to strangers and 1 dubble brl. shotgun which ain't loaded with sofa pillors. Dam if I ain't gitten tired of this hell raisin on my place."

(Signed) B. Griscom

Have a chuckle over that one, ex-G.I. Joe. But think about it, too. B. Griscom had a reason for putting up that sign.

The chances are that when you go hunting you will do most of it on somebody else's property. Not even in "a free country" does any man have any right to trespass on another man's property—and hunting on another man's land without his permission is a trespass. He may not object; but, if he does object, don't blame him. There used to be plenty of land for hunting, and no one ever thought of the trespass problem. But property rights are more strictly guarded today. There are more fences, more hunters, a greater tendency on the part of owners to value hunting rights as a part of the reward of ownership. The result is that every year sees a definite shrinkage in the available "unposted" hunting acreage. The day of "free" hunting in America is past.



Firepower won't "pin down" wild game. They get gone—fast!

The hunters themselves are to blame for this; not hunters generally, but the minority hoodlum element gives the greater group the black eye. This minority has consistently abused the privilege of hunting on other people's property. The owners don't have to take that abuse, and they won't. The abuses committed range all the way from minor nuisances (leaving gates open, cutting or breaking down fences, breaking glass bottles all over pastures) to the more serious crimes of shooting and stealing stock, and even cold-bloodedly murdering the landowner who protests! Yes, there have been cases of murder and that's no stuff!

On the other hand, the farmer or landowner readily responds to the proper kind of treatment. Properly approached and given the consideration he merits, he will usually welcome you. If you go to him before the season opens and tell him your story, learn to know him and his family, and let him learn to know you, you'll have no trouble finding places to hunt. Even if you drive your car into his lane and ask his permission to hunt that very day, leaving your car at his house, few will turn you down. Treat him as you would like to be treated, and you'll have no trouble. He'll probably invite you to come back often.

(Consider this: *The whole game situation is in the palm of the landowner's hand.* He doesn't own the game on his land, *but he does own the land.* He can make that land attractive or unattractive to game. And, more specifically, he can let you hunt or he can keep you off his land. . . . Remember this: That you'd feel just about the way he feels, if you were in his place—and you'll be more apt to get what you want, and less apt to make another owner hate hunters generally.)

You'll find sport shooting quite different from the type of shooting you've been used to in the Pacific and in the ETO. The first and major difference is in the conception of fire power. In modern battle, fire power has become pretty much a matter of volume of fire, from the infantryman's standpoint. It has become accepted practice to literally lay down a barrage of small-arms fire from automatic and semiautomatic weapons in the general direction of a target which often is entirely invisible. This served its purpose admirably in battle, but it has no place in the peacetime hunting coverts of the USA. This kind of fire may "pin down" enemy troops so that you can close with them, but wild animals don't "pin down." They leave the country—fast.

Here, the only fire power that counts is the accurate placement of one well-aimed shot. One properly placed shot from a weapon of adequate power, often a single-shot, usually is all that is necessary. That is the ultimate objective of the real sportsman. It is not always the easiest thing to do. It poses a challenge to anyone who attempts it. He has to be not only a good shot with a complete knowledge of his weapon and confidence in his ability to perform with it, but he must also have a thorough knowledge of the game he is hunting, of the ways of the wild, and of the woodsman. You don't pick up all of this overnight. It comes to the keen student of the out-of-doors only after long and careful observation and study. To many, it comes not at all. You've got to love it and be a real sportsman, worthy of the title so loosely and incorrectly applied to anyone who goes afield with a rod or gun.

But aside from making this a game worth while, one which will try the mettle of the hunter and make him work for his trophy and thrills, there is a more practical reason why accuracy of fire in hunting is of far more importance than volume of fire. This is simply because it is the only way really to control that fire, and to make it safe for a man to stick his nose into the woods in the fall. There are other hunters "in them thar hills," soldier; and their health is just as important to them as yours is to you. When you start throwing hatfuls of bullets at indistinct and uncertain targets in the brush, it's only luck that permits you to bring home the bacon. It's not skill. And, by the same token, it's only luck that prevents those shots from finding another hunter instead of the buck for which they were intended.

Volume fire induces careless shooting, and careless shooting produces casualties. Everything that moves in the brush ain't necessarily game. It may be another hunter. So hold your fire, Joe, and place your shot in a target that is clearly visible to you and plainly identified as *game*.

Remember, this is a game. It's not a life-or-death struggle. It's not war; and neither are you shooting for food to keep body and soul together. In their eagerness to get their game, too many hunters forget everything else, including good sports-

manship and safety. Don't be like that. Keep the rules—above all else, play it safe—and give everybody a break. That means even the game you hunt. Don't shoot until you can see and identify your target plainly, and not even then until you can do the job cleanly and humanely.

"Two's company and three's a crowd." This is true in hunting, too. This is one place where there is no safety in numbers—unless the number is small! Keep your shooting parties small and always know where every individual in that party is located. (The one exception to this, of course, is where the shooters are located on widely scattered stands or blinds over a wide area. And, even here, it is best to know the direction and distance of every stand or blind.)

Wherever possible, shy away from other parties. Don't crowd them and you'll not be cramped for room either.

In the Army, your weapons and ammunition were selected and provided for you. But, when you plan on field shooting as a civilian, you have a wide selection of weapons and ammunition, for a great variety of shooting. The basic principles involved in the selection of these tools are, in the main, three: Your game, the type of range, and you, yourself.

First, let's get one little item off our chest: Military ammunition and modern semiautomatic military weapons are not usually desirable as sporting weapons. The M1 Garand is a fine military weapon. It handles a cartridge amply powerful to kill any game on the American continent. But it is too heavy for hunting, and it cannot readily be converted to the lighter, "sporter" style (as can the '03 Springfield, for example). The carbine is a light, easily handled weapon, but its cartridge is suitable for jack rabbits only. It is not, by any means, a deer cartridge and under no circumstances should it be used as such. So don't use these weapons, even if (by some hook or crook) you happen to have one; and don't use them as a pattern to govern your choice of a hunting weapon, either.

There's a difference between what's good for war and what's good for hunting in the matter of ammunition, too. The code of international warfare prohibits the use of the so-called dumdum or hollow-point bullet, or bullets of the soft-nosed variety. Only full-metal-patched bullets are permitted in war. These, theoretically, will incapacitate a soldier on the battlefield without mutilating him. In battle, the object of shooting is more to cripple the enemy than to kill him. In hunting wild animals, the reverse is the case. Clean, quick, humane kills are demanded, and this object is obtained by displacing as much animal tissue as possible. Most states prohibit the use of military-type cartridges in big-game hunting. Be careful on this point.

Under no circumstances is it wise to try to make hollow points out of full-patched military ammunition. Commercial hollow points have solid-jacketed bases. Military full-patched "ammo" has open bases with the lead core exposed. When the tip of these bullets is removed in trying to make hunting ammo out of them, the lead is exposed at the front end as well as at the base. The result is that, when fired, the core is sometimes blown out of the rifle, but the jacket remains firmly wedged in the bore. If another shot is then fired through this barrel, a seriously damaged weapon—and possibly a damaged hunter as well—is the result.

Other taboos on military ammo are the use of tracers in the woods and fields. The danger of forest fires is great and many have been caused by the careless use of this type of ammunition. Many states have specifically outlawed them. Don't use 'em.

Now, back to the guns! The caliber of your weapon should be determined mainly by the size or body weight of the animal hunted. You use the .22 Long Rifle and cartridges of similar power with consistent success on squirrels and other small game. When you hunt deer, you may use the .25-35, the .30-30, or the .30-'06. For grizzlies and the Alaskan brown bear, you might select a .375 H.&H. Magnum or a .405 Winchester. In between these is a wide variety of calibers suitable for all game species and most hunters.

However, sheer physical size or weight is not all that determines the needs of a rifle for any particular species. The bodies of different species of game animals vary in the proportion of bone structure and in the distribution of tissues of differing densities. Other factors also enter here which should be considered. (For complete information on this, check "Killing Power" by E. Baden Powell, a NRA technical bulletin.)

The terrain in which you find your game has a very definite effect on the weapon and ammunition used, also. For instance, the dense deer woods of the East offer close shots which must be taken quickly from the offhand position. For this kind of hunting a relatively slower, heavier, brush-bucking bullet is generally preferred. On the western deserts and wide, open spaces where cover is scarce and the shots must be taken from much greater distances, often from the prone position, the offhand type of stock may well be replaced by the straighter stock more suitable for prone shooting on a rifle shooting a lighter bullet traveling at far greater speed. Where the .30-30 cartridge may be ideal for deer hunting in the heavy brush country, the more modern types such as the .270 Winchester would prove more satisfactory for the wide, open country of the West. There, you may have to shoot at ranges up to several hundred yards. At such ranges, the low, flat trajectory of the .270 and similar cartridges is preferable to the older, high-trajectory ammunition. The flat trajectory renders error because of misjudgment of distances less frequent, and the fast, light bullet carries with it terrific killing power, even over long distances. But be sure that you consider the energy of the bullet *out where the game is*, not merely at the muzzle of the gun. Some of these fast-traveling bullets lose their velocity (and, consequently, their power) very quickly after the first 200 yards or so. Be sure to select a cartridge that maintains its velocity and energy out where the game "is at."

There are several points to consider in fitting the weapon to your own peculiarities and preferences. Among these are your reaction to recoil and muzzle blast, and your preference with respect to the type of action you want. Except with hunting rifles with very short barrels shooting very fast cartridges, the problem of muzzle blast should not be a serious one. This is usually satisfactorily overcome by using a rifle with a barrel long enough to take the blast away from your face. It should be at least twenty-two inches and preferably twenty-four inches long. Recoil is another matter. The gun selected should be one that you can shoot comfortably with no danger of missing your target because of flinching induced by heavy recoil.

Select a cartridge with ample power for the game to be hunted. Never go undergunned. A .22 Long Rifle will kill a deer, but it is not a deer cartridge. On the other hand, you don't need a .405 for deer, either. Don't go to extremes in this. Select a cartridge with ample power but with moderate recoil, and you will be far more certain (*Continued on page* 48)

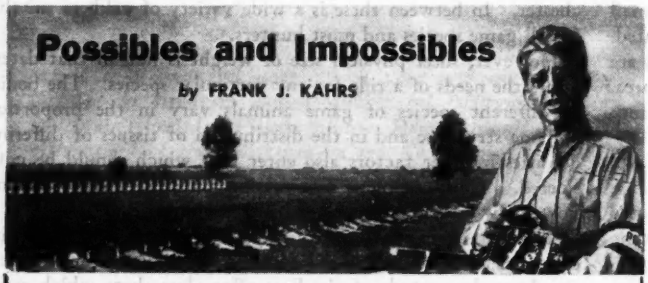
A PAPER FOR PEOPLE WHO SHOOT

Rifle

Remingt

VOL. 8, NO. 12

BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, D



Possibles and Impossibles

by FRANK J. KAHRS

Well, another year is behind us and what a year! Ever stop to think how much has happened during 1945? Three big things loom up sharply. The surrender of Germany and Japan and the atomic bomb. Temporarily, at least, it brought to an end the senseless slaughter of human beings.

We look hopefully toward the future. We have much to be thankful for. Some of us have been hurt—a loved one who never came back. I am thinking of some of you out there who lost a son, a brother, a sweetheart, a father. To you all goes our heartfelt sympathy, especially during the Christmas holidays. No, those of you who have been hurt, we are not going to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, but we are trying to tell you to make the best of it. Yes, it's going to be hard, but time is on our side and will help heal the wound. So, remember, we are thinking of you and when we get safely past this hard part of our journey through this perilous life, we'll meet again and with renewed faith in the future. We have been a bit clumsy in trying to say what we have been thinking, but we know you will understand.

As for the New Year let's hope we can meet up with each other as we have in the past. There will be lots to talk about. Already I have had several letters from shooting friends fresh out of the service telling me about their first visit to the rifle range for a competitive shoot since Pearl Harbor. In each case, the layoff and lack of practice have not been harmful, but quite the contrary. One oldtimer ran off a 398 x 400 at 100 yards with iron sights. Not bad! Not bad!

What the country needs right now is a lot of good match ammunition, some super-duper target rifles, scopes—both target and spotting—and plenty of new ranges, covered, of course, with modern facilities, and last but not least, a chance to go to Perry and shoot again with the small bore, big bore or pistol. And in the cool of the evening stroll along Commercial Row, meet old friends, tell some tall ones without a blush of shame about some impossible shooting you never did, and at the 24th hour sneak back to your tent tired but happy that you are back again with your friends enjoying the sport that brought you all together on common ground.

Then, surely we will all have a Happy New Year. That's our wish to all of you.

emington News

CONNECTICUT, DECEMBER, 1945

First Class Reading Matter for Rifle Shooters

WEATHER:
IDEAL FOR ST. NICK

hristmas!

To our many target-shooting friends who have waited patiently for a Remington target rifle and Remington match ammunition, we extend greetings of the season and best wishes for a new year of high scores and happy shooting.

nd a Happy New Year

TRAINING FOR VICTORY

By C. R. ROGERS

REMEMBER THE TROUBLE AND FEAR in your heart when newspaper headlines shouted such words as "blitzkrieg," "Panzer"? Remember Dunkirk, and the feeling of shock, of sick foreboding it caused? Was any American confident of his country's future as German mechanized might swept over Poland and France, into Africa, Norway, and Greece? Were *you* comfortable while England's "so few" RAF gallants won the Battle of Britain, and Stalin's stalwarts held at Stalingrad?

Remember back to pictures and stories of our own "armed might" in those dark days. Selective Service in 1940. The National Guard mobilized. Soldiers training with wooden guns and trucks hung with cardboard and labelled "TANK." Men leaving home; training; more men; more training. Fortunately, time was on our side.

December 7, 1941. Pearl Harbor. We knew, then, what the training was for—knew that it would have to meet terrific tests. There was no longer any time to spare.

When Hitler's Storm Troopers marched into the plains of Czecho-Slovakia, *our* sport—marksmanship—began to take on a grimmer aspect. There was a bigger, more important job ahead, now, than establishing national records, shooting tighter groups. The National Rifle Association urged its affiliated clubs to take on that job. Our initial effort left the methods in the hands of the local clubs. More definite guides were needed. For mass production we had to have greater standardization.

Nevertheless, this informal effort produced surprising results. In the Spring of 1942—after Pearl Harbor, and while Jap forces were relentlessly advancing in the Far East—a survey showed that 952 clubs had instituted some sort of local instruction program. At that time 96,791 individuals had completed a course of marksmanship instruction, and an additional 44,358 were then enrolled in classes.

Recognizing the shortcomings of a program built on locally improvised schedules of training, the National Rifle Association set out to standardize the training in all clubs. New manuals were written, instruction charts prepared, training motion pictures filmed. All this material was carefully checked with high-ranking military authorities in order that the resulting plan would supply the preinduction needs recognized by the Armed Forces. The enthusiasm, encouragement, and co-operation of these officers was heartening and gratifying. Charged with the tremendous job of training millions of men in a relatively short time, they realized the value of a knowledge of the basic fundamentals of marksmanship in a new recruit, regardless of his later assignment. The new character of warfare had eliminated safe rear areas and had made the delivery of projectiles, whether from rifle, mortar, naval gun, plane, or rocket launcher, a matter of the highest precision—just the sort of precision and care that is taught quickest and best on the small-bore rifle range.

The co-operation of military training personnel was far reaching. It secured similar co-operation from such other government agencies as the War Production Board and Defense Supplies Corporation. Without the material help of these agencies, the program would have been doomed. Guns and ammunition, rare commodities during wartime, were absolute necessities.

The new program, built around NRA-Approved and NRA-Registered Small-Arms Firing Schools operating standard courses of instruction, began in October, 1942. Shortly before that date, a survey taken at several Reception Centers showed that less than 2 per cent of the men inducted had had any formal training in the use of firearms.

Under the new plan, a Training Division was created at NRA Headquarters to administer these schools and act as a clearing house for training aids, methods, and equipment. "Learn to Shoot" posters advertised the schools locally. Clubs applied for formal registration, meeting set requirements as to range facilities, equipment, experience of personnel, and training schedules. A procedure for the examination and further certification of instructors was set in operation. Contacts with military training agencies were maintained.

The success of this more stringently supervised program is partially shown by the following statistics: 843 clubs operating local schools enrolled 67,959 trainees, of whom 48,621 completed the entire course of instruction. Naturally, many of the others received their "Greetings" and donned uniforms before the six-weeks course could be finished. School ranges were in operation a total of 77,625 hours, and 5,590 instructors put in the astounding total of 346,468 man-hours, necessarily in addition to their regular working hours. All this effort was given without a single cent of pay.

The thousands of NRA-trained men gathered together into one unit would make an Army Corps any fighting general would be proud to command. Equipped and supported by modern weapons, it would hardly be far-fetched to say that such an outfit would be the most effective military striking force in all history. Of course, that force is only theoretical. Actually, these men were scattered among all U. S. fighting forces. That very fact probably *magnified* their over-all contribution to our armed strength. There is no way of knowing the extent of this influence, but certainly it is reasonable to suppose that the squad of a sergeant trained in the effective use of small arms would be a squad of better marksman than other squads without that advantage. Certainly, a company officer who, himself, is an expert rifleshot will influence all the men

Women attended the classes, too; and they shot well, as this scene (at the Lockheed Pistol and Rifle Club (Hawthorne, California) indicates.

in his command. The skill and knowledge of a few men helps immeasurably to raise the standards of all.

The real proof of the effectiveness of this preinduction training is in testimonials from the men themselves. Although combat soldiers are hesitant to talk about their own accomplishments, the NRA Training Division files contain hundreds of letters. Excerpts from a few of those letters make mighty fine reading:

From Fort Sill: "I am now assigned . . . as cadreman and small-arms instructor. Mostly this assignment was due to my previous experience as instructor in small arms under NRA supervision. . . . The men coming in, in recent months, show a very definite improvement in the handling and care of small arms, quite a few having had NRA Preinduction Training."

From a combat zone in Germany to a school instructor: "We greatly appreciate your good work. And, let me add that our appreciation grows more and more every time we face a situation in which our lives depend upon our trigger squeeze or our sight alignment."

From a Marine in the Pacific: "I hope that, in the near future, almost every man that joins or is inducted into the service will have had experience with a rifle, so that the Army can take over where the NRA left off."

From a boy in the Air Corps: "If you read this letter to any of the class, here is something from a fellow who was taught by the best instructors you can find anywhere around Kentucky. Listen to your instructors and for gosh sakes let it soak in. It wasn't many months ago I was just like you. In this short time I have learned that this game is the real thing. It's either you or them. The best trained men come through. Get every bit of training you can."

From a father: "Tom is back in the Pacific somewhere now. But while he was home he told me enough about how his own previous training paid off that I will feel forever grateful to the NRA for their long-range program (and since the war, their concentrated program) to teach Americans to shoot."

Here's the real pay-off from the European theatre: "The other day one of the enemy had to make a dash from one piece of cover to another ten yards away. Several of us saw what was going on, but I remembered that word SQUEEZE. I knew when my rifle cracked that he was not going to get to the cover. Tell the men at the gun club that I want you to thank them for me."

Clubs, Instructors—there is your pay. Our country's armed might—greater than any this earth had ever seen before—has won a hard-fought, well-deserved Victory. Among the millions of blue- and khaki-clad boys, there are many who are coming home because you gave your time and efforts to make the training job of the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps easier, and to make the finished product the finest fighting man in the world. ♦♦♦

THE OFFHAND RIFLE

By ALLYN H. TEDMON

THE GENERALLY ACCEPTED IDEA for the rifle for offhand shooting seems to include a heavy barrel. And I mean a *heavy* barrel, seemingly regardless of the length of the barrel. I have seen, and so have you, barrels that were almost impossible to hold in the offhand position without exerting every ounce of strength the shooter possessed. I remember one such rifle, a .22 rim fire, built on a Ballard action with a barrel that was close to two inches in diameter and not over twenty-four inches long! Now, after numerous years of shooting the rifle offhand, I have some ideas considerably at variance with what I call "this heavy-barrel insanity."

For me, the offhand rifle, or any rifle, should have a stock as light in weight as it can be and still do the job. Mr. Harry Pope, in one of his breaks into print years ago, voiced this same idea—and surely you will admit that Harry Pope knows. It has been my experience that the *weight* of the barrel (up to a certain stage of lightness, of course) is not really half so important as the *length* of the barrel. From actual shooting, believe it or not, a Savage Model '99 with a twenty-two-inch barrel holds noticeably better and steadier than the same rifle with a twenty-inch barrel. The poorest-holding offhand rifle that I own, except for actual snap shooting in the big-game field, is a Savage Model '99 .303 with a banty-weight twenty-inch barrel. It is a peach of a hunting rifle, but to shoot it offhand at a black bull's-eye is just something else, in spite of the fact that, with a scope on it, this rifle will hold around a two-inch group all day at 100 yards.

Perhaps the nicest-holding offhand rifle I own is a .40 caliber Blake bolt action with a beautifully tapered thirty-inch barrel. This is strictly a hunting rifle and the barrel is what you would call light weight. (The rifle itself weighs around eight and a half pounds.) Yet, because of its length, the front sight simply lies right where you hold it. (You say, "A Blake rifle? I never heard of one." Well, you are not alone. Probably the majority of riflemen today have never heard of it, but the Blake was years ahead of its time and is, today, a beautiful specimen of an American rifle.)

Another rifle I have that holds about as well as the Blake is a Model 44 Stevens Ideal .25-20 with an old standard Stevens No. 2 thirty-inch barrel. Again, here is a rifle that has a medium-weight barrel that is not tiresome to hold—yet, because of the barrel length, there is no wild weaving and wobbling.

Another example in my own gun case is a .38-55 Stevens Tip-Up with a thirty-two-inch barrel. It, too, holds like a rock. The barrel is octagon and about a No. 3; but, because of the .38 caliber, it is not overly heavy. (And did you ever try one of the old .45-70 Springfield Tip-Up rifles, offhand? Did you notice how steadily it held?)

The favorite rifle of the late C. W. Rowland, one of the greatest of rest shooters and a very tough offhand shot in the bargain, was a Ballard with a long medium-heavy barrel. It was not a great, big, arm-breaking hunk of iron. The rifle handled easily and hung steadily on the bull.

A long barrel with iron sights decreases the holding error because the muzzle sways slowly or almost not at all. A medium-weight long barrel makes it possible for a man, even though he is not in hard training, to enjoy offhand shooting.

The late C. E. (Ed) Howard, one of our really top offhand shots, believed in heavy barrels. In fact, his two top target rifles were so barrel heavy that I, personally, wouldn't attempt to shoot them. As Ed was a sight better wing shot than I, and could run faster in the bargain, I never argued it out with him. But, for myself, I'll take a rifle with the long, medium-weight barrel for comfortable offhand target shooting. ♦♦♦

"A-Hunting We Will Go!"

(*Continued from page* 43)

of making clean, sure kills than you would with an excess of power that *you* may not be able to handle properly.

The selection of the type of action is a matter more of personal preference than anything else. There are single shots, slide-action and lever-action repeaters, bolt-action weapons, and semiautomatics. (There are no full-automatic weapons in the sporting field.) Any of these actions, including the single shot, are suitable for sport shooting in American game fields. The careful placement of the first shot is far more important than throwing a hatful of shot from a fast-firing weapon. If you prefer a repeater, and it is always well to have a second shot ready to be used quickly for the *coup de grace*, any of the repeating actions will be found satisfactory. The semiauto is undoubtedly the fastest, with the slide action second, the lever third, and the bolt gun a close fourth. But there is so little difference between these that it is of no importance. Close your eyes and make your choice, and then learn to shoot that weapon. If speed is demanded, practice Rapid Fire. You can become so expert that the bolt-action rifle will be amply fast for any American game under almost any conditions.

When it comes to bird shooting, you're up against something a bit different from anything taught you in the infantry. Bird shooting is a little less complicated than aerial gunnery because only your target is flying. *You* are standing still. But it's complicated enough; and, on a bird gun, you've got no self-computing sights to help you.

Wing shooting is probably more of an art than any other type of shooting. It cannot be reduced to simple mathematics, as can rifle shooting. No one can tell another shooter just how much to lead a bird, or other flying targets, under all circumstances and conditions. There is one factor in this equation that can never be relied upon to react exactly in the same manner under all conditions. That is the human factor. It is unreliable and always variable.

There's only one way to become an experienced, deadly wing shot. Learn, first, the fundamentals of stance, hold, swing, and follow through. Then shoot. Shoot as much as you can, every day if possible. Only by constant practice will you gain a measure of control of this "human factor."

Dry fire, too, is a tremendous aid to the tyro wing shot in learning good gun handling; and nowhere is good gun handling more important than here. In your room swing on the pictures on the wall. Outdoors, follow the birds or anything that will offer an excuse to mount the gun to your shoulder and go through the motions of firing a shot. You can't get too much of this.

Of primary importance in wing shooting is the reduction of all movement to a minimum. In *approaching* your target, learn to carry the shotgun with the butt tucked well under the upper arm and the weapon in a horizontal position in the direction in which you expect to make the shot. Keep the muzzle *below* the point at which you expect to draw on the target. (Of course, your target sometimes fools you by going somewhere else, but that only keeps you on your toes and makes the game more interesting.) From this position, you have but to raise the butt a couple of inches to the shoulder and you are ready.

Your first shooting should be on clay targets. Nothing is better for all-around wing-shooting practice than skeet. However, if you don't have access to a skeet field, the hand trap and a strong-armed friend to throw the targets is the next best bet. If that same friend is also an experienced wing shot and a good coach, you have an ideal setup. It is really amazing how quickly a normal, healthy person can catch on to this when he goes about it in the right manner.

Select your shotgun for the type of shooting you expect to do. Generally speaking, there are two types of shotguns: One for upland bird shooting and the other for waterfowl and pass shooting. For upland birds you will want a fast-handling gun. In this type of shooting, the ranges are short and the available time interval is also short. The successful shot must be gotten off quickly. Believe it or not, the average range at which upland game birds are taken is about eighteen yards. The general requirements for a gun of this type are: Relatively light weight (six to seven pounds), a short barrel (probably not more than twenty-six inches) on a gun of one of the lighter gauges. (By lighter gauges I mean 16 or 20 gauge. Don't go to anything smaller than the 20 gauge.)

For waterfowl and in pass shooting, you will want a weapon that will reach out a bit more, to thirty or forty yards. Don't try to reach any farther, at least at first. For this purpose, the heavier gauges (16 or 12) are more desirable. Federal regulations prohibit the use of anything heavier than 10 gauge on migratory birds. To handle the heavier shells you will want a somewhat heavier gun (seven to eight pounds) with barrels of twenty-eight to thirty-two inches. They swing more slowly and are more stable and reliable for this kind of shooting than the lighter, faster guns.

If you can afford but one gun and want to use it for everything from railbirds and snipe to turkeys and geese, try the 16 gauge double with twenty-eight-inch barrels, right modified, and left full choked, with the weight between seven and seven and one-half pounds. But, mind you, that's only one man's idea of an all-purpose gun.

There are various types of actions available in shotguns, as in rifles. There are the pump guns, the automatics, and the doubles, and, of course, the single shots. There are a few lever-action shotguns, but they are practically obsolete. If possible, don't make up your mind until you have actually shot them all. The pump guns and doubles are undoubtedly the more popular types. There used to be one serious disadvantage with the single-barrel types in that but one degree of choke was possible. However, with the invention and perfection of the Polychoke and the Cutts Compensator, this has been eliminated and a wide variety of chokes may be installed in any single-barrel gun.

Choke in a shotgun, briefly, is the constriction of the bore at the muzzle which has the effect of holding the pellets of the shot charge together longer, enabling the shooter to reach out farther with more generally effective shot patterns. For general purposes, there are usually four degrees of choke: Namely, cylinder choke, improved cylinder, modified, and full choke. These are determined by the percentage of the shot charge that they will place within a thirty-inch circle at forty yards. However, you will undoubtedly hear someone refer to one-quarter

choke, and one-half choke, et cetera, and perhaps we might be a bit more technical. The varying degrees of choke with their pattern percentages are about as follows:

Cyl.	Imp. cyl.	¼ ch.	½ ch.	¾ ch.	Full ch.	Super choke
40%	45%	52%	60%	68%	75%	80%

(Askins in Modern Shotguns and Loads)

If you are of the inquisitive type and want to see what your shotgun will do, try a few patterns on large sheets of wrapping paper. But don't go out and sell the gun on the basis of one or two poor patterns. They don't mean too much. It will take at least fifty patterns to give a really definite idea of what any one barrel will shoot consistently, according to Wallace Coxe in "Smokeless Shotgun Powders." Remember that all the shot doesn't reach the target at the same instant. Your shot charge strings out at the rate of from one to one and one-half feet for every ten yards of range. This means that, at forty yards, the shot string will probably be at least twelve feet long.

There are shot sizes for all game species. They vary from Dust, which measures about .04 of an inch in diameter, to 000 Buckshot running about .36 of an inch. Then, of course, there are the single-ball loads and the rifled slugs for heavy game. The most useful sizes are Numbers 6, 7, 7½, and 8. Number 6 will take care of ducks and the larger birds such as pheasant, the grouse, crow, et cetera. Number 8 does nicely for quail, woodcock, and the smaller game birds. For the heavier game birds, such as geese and turkeys, a heavier shot is probably more desirable, but don't go to extreme on this. Remember, it is the pattern with which you are mainly concerned; and the heavier the shot used, the poorer the pattern you get. There are as many opinions on shot sizes as there are shotgun shooters and anything anyone says on this subject can be guaranteed to get an argument.

Another hot subject is the relative killing ability of drop or soft shot versus chilled or hard shot. Opinions run rampant on this, but the fact remains that the chilled pellets are less deformed in passing through the forcing cone and the choke than are the soft shot. Consequently, they fly truer, making consistently better shot patterns. The harder pellet should give better penetration, too.

One last word of warning: One of the most pathetic lacks among shotgun shooters is their total inability to judge even the short shotgun ranges. The shotgun is essentially a short-range weapon. Within its range, there is nothing more deadly; beyond those ranges, it is very unsatisfactory. By all means, learn to *know* distances and don't shoot at seventy-five-yard birds with a twenty-yard shot charge. Don't strain those barrels!

Good hunting, ex-G.I. Joe!

The Law—and the Gun

(Continued from page 21)

officers in that it embodies the positions and types of shooting that are likely to be used in actual combat. It includes both right- and left-hand firing, hip shooting, firing from behind a barricade, and shooting from both sitting and prone positions, all under a time limit which adds to the tension of the students. It varies from sixty yards prone to seven yards from the hip. Fifty shots are fired, which requires rapid reloading.

The Colt silhouette target is used and the "K-value" score is counted. The sum is multiplied by .4, which converts it on a basis of 100 per cent. In spite of the large target, perfect scores are rare.

In our qualification, the men are required to fire the course three times on different days. Those who average 90 or above are classified as Experts and awarded gold medals. Men averaging 80 to 90 are classified as Sharpshooters and awarded silver medals. Those who fire from 60 to 80 are qualified as Marksmen but are not awarded medals. Men who are classified as Pistol Masters by the NRA and who qualify as Experts over the course are awarded gold Master medals.

(Medals are an excellent medium for increasing interest in marksmanship. The average man, including myself, will just about "bust" himself trying to win that elusive bit of gold or silver which gives him something to show his fellows, something to take home and impress the dubious wife and family. From a police standpoint, the medal indicates to the public the efficiency of the wearer and is a deterrent to the criminal.

The chief of police, who is an expert pistol shot, and the board of police commissioners have a keen appreciation of the necessity for a policeman to be a marksman. It has been through their excellent understanding that we have been able to establish incentives for proficiency.

Interdepartmental matches, fired each quarter during the year, furnish shoulder-to-shoulder competition. Each team consists of the five highest on the last course of instruction in that particular station or bureau. Thus, every officer is encouraged to improve his marksmanship and we avoid developing a few Master shots at the expense of the rest of the department.

The pistol team which represents this department in registered matches is picked by elimination prior to each match. Any member of the department is eligible to compete for a place on this team and it is the ambition of every shooter to be a member.

Hitting moving targets with a handgun is a difficult feat, but it is practical from a police standpoint and should be taught. There are many ways of teaching shooting at moving objects and many different mechanical targets have been devised. We use two devices—the moving pictures described earlier in this article, and the "Charging Jap." (See picture and drawing, page 20.) The shooter stands beneath a tightly drawn wire upon which the target (painted to resemble a Jap) runs *toward* him. A shot placed in the ten-inch area of the abdomen of the target stops it immediately by a braking mechanism. The shooter is scored on the basis of the distance the target travels.

In developing our program of firearms training we have attempted to prepare the shooter for the time when he may have to face death, hold, and squeeze, beat the other guy to the draw, or swing with a rapidly moving target. When that time comes and the officer lives to tell about it, we of the academy staff derive a great deal of satisfaction and pleasure in thinking that, maybe, our training helped. ♦ ♦ ♦

The Dubs Start a Rifle Club

(Continued from page 37)

happy, and we thought that maybe we were getting out of the beginner class.

Of course, we have lost members who joined under the urgency of war. Our training classes are smaller now, and run heavily to preinductees and boys. On the other hand, we have a healthy core of nuts who are now crazy about a hobby which is in the best American tradition but which meant nothing to them until recently.

The editor asked me to set down some random thoughts on what happened to us when we ran into some of the problems that plague every club. So here goes:

Ranges: This was no problem. Wartime psychology helped, of course. We planned our job of selling the landowner as carefully as we would plan a rifle match. We convinced him that we *had a purpose,* that we were serious, that we would play square with him, and that we knew what we were doing. (The last was probably a gross misrepresentation.)

Our first outdoor range was lost when the owner died in late 1940. Mr. Hiram Halle gave us the site for our second. We invited him to observe the Sunday shooting, and he frequently did.

We live scattered all over. Some of us work in New York, and others work close at hand. We hadn't ever known each other as well as we should. The rifle club changed that. When Mr. Halle died in 1944, his executors—and you know how executors are about rifles—told us that Mr. Halle considered the club one of the best things that had ever happened to the community, and that we could continue to have the range.

Safety: Thorough indoctrination, *Bugle* rantings, and a fine of one dollar per closed bolt backed with unrelenting vigilance solved that problem. With due respect to the jinx that's supposed to punish boasters, we've never had an accident. Neither does any other decently run club.

Publicity: Why this is a bogey to so many clubs is a mystery to me. The local papers never turned down any copy we offered them; not once. Of course, you must take pains to write it so that it makes sense to someone who doesn't know a 52 from a P-51. But the names of your shooters are always *local news;* and if you should happen to beat a club from the next town, that's pie in the sky for any editor.

House & Garden Magazine gave us a four-page write-up with twenty-one pictures in March, 1942. *Time* Magazine gave us a paragraph, too. (That wasn't hard, either, believe it or not. All you have to do is go after it. How do you think we got this story in THE RIFLEMAN?)

The Dubs: NSRC was built by dubs, for dubs, and of dubs.

We work full time to encourage and "sell" the dub. When a dub's score goes up a few points, *The Bugle* regards it as the most important news of the week, which it is.

The dub gets all the coaching he can stand. There are medals for him to win. He is eased slowly into decimal targets.

The dub is our replacement, the lifeblood of our club. He is the hot shot and club officer of year-after-next. So far as we are concerned, the dub is Queen of the May.

Getting New Members: The NRA booklet gave us all the ideas we could use.

The thing that worked best was to tackle a group that was already organized for some purpose—anything from a Rotary Club to a Fire Department. They had men who liked to do things and join things. They could start shooting with their own friends. They had existing machinery for rounding up their members.

What to Shoot: I have already set down the reasons why we are firmly committed to a 100-yard course featuring four positions and Rapid Fire.

The exact course varies for variety. The target may be as tough as the 100-yard International or as easy as the War Department grapefruit. But everyone shoots the same thing, at the same time, so *The Bugle* has a list of standings every week.

We have tried handicap matches and most everything else in NRA's Idea Book for Club Secretaries. We have plinked at towed targets, and we've run assault-first courses.

I think the rule in such experiments is that they should be tried just often enough to liven things up, but never so often that shooting becomes a circus. The only trouble with things like this assault-fire course is that they use up time. You have to run them one man at a time, for safety's sake.

Equipment: If you are mooching for X's in the Dewar game, the owner of a medium-priced popgun is very unhappy when his neighbor unfurls a supercolossal bull gun replete with radiator cap and running water.

It's quite different when the course is four positions and Rapid Fire outdoors. We have individually bought our share of ordnance, but many of our best shooters still use the club-owned popguns. Even the dubs are content when they see President McQuillon (he was a dub in 1941) lay in a prone possible, decimal, with one of the darned things.

Planning: I am convinced that a rifle club does not get anywhere unless some one loves it so much that he will think about it and plan for it for at least a few minutes every day. Greer has done that; McQuillon is doing it.

Plans for new recruits, for matches, for instruction, for ranges, for courses—all are necessary. Careful planning seems to pay such big dividends.

Every club has men with ability and energy of this sort. But how often they are pushed away from important offices in favor of an outstanding shot or glamour boy! There can be no greater mistake. We were just lucky that Greer, McQuillon, and Powell each combined all the desirable characteristics.

The Bugle: I would like to venture the opinion that a club is twice as strong if it has its own newspaper. Nothing elaborate or expensive is necessary.

The Bugle rounds up the backsliders and encourages the dubs. It builds up coming events. It gives Joe Doakes a permanent record of the day he burned up the course. And how it improves scores! When Bill Zilch is trying to hold in that last shot, offhand, he knows that, if he puts it in the shrubbery, people will read about it all over five townships—and that if, by some miracle, he collects a ten, they will read about *that,* too. So the ten goes in, and *The Bugle* crows.

Don't get me wrong: We're not setting ourselves up as experts on how a club ought to be organized or run. We made mistakes. Probably lots of clubs have done the job as well or better. But we've had a lot of fun, learned a lot ourselves, and taught a lot of people to shoot. And, like anyone with a good hobby, we think that everyone else ought to try it, too. ◆ ◆ ◆

The Manufacturers

ARGUS

Back in 1939, this Company purchased the optical-producing equipment of the Graf Optical Company, of Chicago, in order to be able to control the production and quality of the optical parts required for Argus cameras and optical instruments.

When the European War broke out in 1939, this Company found itself involved in the production of optical equipment of a highly specialized type for the British and French Governments. When America became a belligerent, the War Department did everything possible to encourage a vastly greater activity in optical instruments, the result being a vastly enlarged optical plant. This optical plant was fully equipped with the most modern lens-grinding and polishing machines. A large staff of expert craftsmen was trained, and in good time a staff of approximately 500 men and women were engaged in the manufacture of complicated optical instruments, urgently needed by this country and by our Allies.

Panoramic telescopes, Elbo telescopes, Argus Spotting Telescopes, and many others were manufactured by the tens of thousands. It will be of special interest to riflemen to know that many thousands of the standard spotting telescopes so much in evidence on the rifle ranges of the country were used without change from original design in reconnaissance work, in artillery observation, by sharpshooter observers, and in tanks and other armored vehicles in all theaters.

Many thousands of Argus cameras were purchased by the Army. Because Argus was originally a radio manufacturing company, the equipment and talent available at the factory was revived and many millions of dollars worth of complicated radio equipment was produced for the Signal Corps.

In recognition of its splendid performance, the Army-Navy E award was made to the optical plant in the early days of its war production, to which four stars were added.

Argus management believes that the development of its optical plant dictates that, in the period ahead, Argus should, and will, design and produce a line of fine cameras. It is anticipated that first camera shipments will be made in late November or early December of 1945.

In the optical field, it is planned to continue the manufacture of the Super-Grade Spotting Telescopes, which were first made available to the shooters within six weeks of the war's end. In the spring of 1946, Argus will have other interesting products for the shooter, one of which will likely be a medium-priced spotting telescope of high quality with coated lenses.

Added to these, the rifleman can expect something sensational in the rifle telescope field some time in 1946. For more than two years, as opportunity made it possible, Argus optical and mechanical engineers have devoted time and study to the design of a line of varmint, big-game, and target telescopes. These promise to be of top quality and design, at prices from below ten dollars to seventy-five dollars or more for the fine-quality grades.—*Roy G. Walker, Optical Sales Manager.*

BAUSCH & LOMB

During World War II, the importance of the optical industry has been universally recognized, and we are proud of our part in it. Great expansion of production facilities met the suddenly increased needs of the armed forces. New products were developed; new processes were perfected; new scientific and technological discoveries and improvements enhanced the performance of existing products.

Balcote antireflection lens surfacing, for example, already in commercial production at Bausch & Lomb in 1939, was made practical for military binoculars, and other military optical instruments. Rapid grinding processes which enabled Bausch & Lomb machines to produce "a prism a minute" were developed. Many parts produced in only small quantities before the war were placed on a production-line basis with no sacrifice of precision workmanship.

At the very beginning of the war, the Army and Navy earmarked the entire output of Bausch & Lomb Ray-Ban Sun Glasses and the WPB ordered that all metal-type Ray-Bans be supplied only on government contracts.

New developments in binoculars made it possible for spotters and observers to see the enemy first, better, and farther away. A special binocular was developed for night fighters. Another special binocular was made by Bausch & Lomb for submarine use. Binoculars were used for detecting the wake of approaching torpedoes, identifying distant ships and planes, locating snipers and gun emplacements, observing hits, and spotting survivors on life rafts.

Known in the Army as the M-4 Observation Telescope, the Bausch & Lomb 50 mm. NRA Spotting Scope was found in forward observation posts.

Slightly modified, the B&L 80 mm. Team Captain's Spotting Scope has been known to the Navy as the Ship's Telescope. Fitted with filters for various light conditions, it was used for recognition, signal reading during radio silence, and for all sorts of observation requiring magnifications beyond the powers of hand-held binoculars.

The Antiaircraft Battery Commander's Telescope consists of two elbow telescopes mounted rigidly together so that they always have the same field of view. An observer, looking through one of the elbow telescopes, manipulates the instrument to keep the enemy aircraft always in view, so that the battery commander can make a quick observation through the other telescope at any time.

Besides these vital instruments, Bausch & Lomb made giant range finders for battleships, antiaircraft height finders, aerial photo mapping equipment, searchlight reflectors, bubble sextants for aircraft navigation, radar parts, GI spectacles, gas mask spectacles, mortar sights, and industrial optical instruments.

With reconversion proceeding rapidly, Bausch & Lomb now has good news for shooters and sportsmen. Bausch & Lomb Shooting Glasses and Skeet Glasses will be available in increasing

quantities in 1946. The Bausch & Lomb 7X, 50 Navy Binocular has been available to civilians since September. This glass, which did a man-size job for the Navy, is a waterproof binocular with Balcoted optical parts for increased visibility even under poor light conditions. Every 7X, 50 Navy Binocular is tested for leakage under water at a pressure equivalent to a depth of six feet, so hunters need not worry about an occasional ducking.

An entirely new Bausch & Lomb Spotting Scope will be in production soon. Although it is too early to divulge details, the new scope will be even better than the B&L Scopes used by seventeen out of the twenty high scorers at Camp Perry in 1940.

Busy to the very last with war contracts, Bausch & Lomb has not been able to place its products on dealers' shelves as quickly as some other manufacturers. Reconversion has progressed rapidly, however, and in a few months we hope to be able to meet all consumer needs.—*I. L. Nixon, Director.*

COLT'S

Right now, we are bending every effort to expedite the production of Colt revolvers and pistols in our factory. This is no small job, since to reconvert a plant from total war production to total peace production is a man-sized job.

The first models that we produce will, of necessity, be the same as those turned out in 1941; but, gradually, we will begin to turn out revolvers and pistols that are greatly improved in design and mechanism.

A number of new models are eventually going to come out of our factory; models that will be of unusual interest to target shooters. These will embody the latest ideas and design, and will reflect the many new methods that have been worked out during the war period. You can feel certain that Colt quality will be maintained and even improved, and the models we turn out will provide shooters with the very latest things in revolvers and pistols.—*Leonard C. Davis, Sales Manager.*

GRIFFIN & HOWE

Griffin & Howe, Inc. is proud of its contribution to the war effort. Gunmakers of the first order for the past twenty-two years and a subsidiary of Abercrombie & Fitch Company since 1930, this well-known firm was building rifles, engaging in seasonal repair work, and converting Army Springfields into sporting rifles when the Pearl Harbor disaster occurred.

Almost immediately after that, Griffin & Howe elected to make a trigger pawl for the Oerlikon antiaircraft gun and received an original contract for 4,000 units. So successful was this beginning that additional contracts were granted in short order and over 20,000 of these parts were manufactured. This made necessary the acquisition of additional space and equipment and brought orders from both Grumman and Republic, airplane manufacturers, for miscellaneous aircraft parts; from Cox & Stevens for "jack adapters" for use on aircraft stabilizers; and from General Motors Corporation for 10,000 extractors for the 75 mm. cannon. These contracts were all completed.

Early in 1944 the firm was asked to do some experimental work by the Canadian Government on telescope mounts for sniper rifles and, about the same time, began additional experimental work for the U. S. Government for 8,300 telescopic mounts for use on the Garand rifle, this mount being an adaptation of the famous Griffin & Howe mount with which so many sportsmen are familiar. This contract was renewed several times and about 37,000 of these parts were ordered. Fourteen thousand were completed by V-E Day and on V-J Day only 2,000 remained in work.

Now Griffin & Howe is ready again to swing into production of rifles and to turn out expert repairing as before. "We feel that we have learned a lot in the past few years," says Mr. Griffin, "and are better equipped in every way to carry on."

Mr. O. L. Guernsey, President of Abercrombie & Fitch, is enthusiastic about the future of sporting arms in the postwar world. "All indications are that there will be a greater interest shown in all types of arms than ever before," he states.

HARRINGTON & RICHARDSON

At the time the United States entered the World War, we had completed our development of the new H&R Reising submachine gun. Our first orders and deliveries on this new lightweight arm were to friendly foreign powers. Shortly after our entrance, this weapon, in the standard Model 50, was adopted by the United States Marine Corps. We then developed it, with them, and for them, into a compact folding-stock paratrooper's type, known as Model 55. We have supplied thousands of these two models to the Marine Corps.

In a short time, a need developed for a small-bore .22 military training rifle, more nearly duplicating the new M1 (Garand) service weapon. To meet this demand, H&R developed their military training rifle Model 65, a .22 caliber in the semiautomatic action. This has been adopted by the United States Marine Corps as their basic training weapon.

Meanwhile, the United States Navy demanded a line-throwing gun for rescue and supply uses. H&R developed a new-type, one-man, shoulder, line-throwing gun and kit, which has been adopted by the Navy as their standard equipment and has proved invaluable in today's type of sea warfare. We have supplied thousands of these guns and kits to the United States Navy.

With the Japanese advance in the Orient closing our source of supply of raw rubber, it was imperative that we develop crude rubber production in other parts of the world. To carry out this new program, H&R produced thousands of single-barrel shotguns for the native rubber workers in the jungle.

We also produced .22 caliber revolvers for training purposes and for flyer's emergency kits.

We are proud of the Army-Navy E flag with four stars awarded to us, and now flying over our plant.

We have spent considerable time and money in a survey, covering the postwar firearm needs, as well as for new factory equipment. Where our war effort was primarily on rifles, which we did not make in prewar days, it is only natural that we should now add a line of high-class .22 caliber rifles for civilian use. As conditions, plant facilities, material, and labor permit, we will offer .22 caliber rifles in semiautomatic and bolt-action types for training purposes, hunting, and target shooting.

New and outstanding models in shotguns will be added to our line as conditions permit and will cover the scattergun field completely. Our first offering, the latter part of this year or the first of 1946, will be a newly designed pump-action shotgun. —*J. W. Baldwin, Sales Manager.*

HERCULES

Hercules Powder Company is proud of its wartime record of having produced nearly two billion pounds of explosives at ordnance plants which it operated. More than 800 million pounds of that total was TNT. The remaining poundage represents production of rocket powder, smokeless powder, trench mortar powder, and pentolite. The Company also produced 318 million pounds of ammonia for use in military explosives.

Hercules Powder Company has been identified for many years as a leading supplier of explosives and chemicals and when the vast National Defense program was inaugurated in 1940, the Government called upon us and our experienced personnel to take an active part.

The first of the six Government-owned and Hercules-operated ordnance plants to go into operation was the Radford Ordnance Works in Virginia. This plant, which was to play such an important part in the production of smokeless powder during the war, was located on the same site where, 168 years ago, Bryon McDonald produced powder for Washington's Revolutionary Army. Production included .30 caliber and .50 caliber powder, various types of cannon powder, trench mortar powder, rocket powder, and pentolite.

The next Hercules-operated, Government-owned, plant to go into production was the New River Ordnance Plant at Pulaski, Virginia, later expanded to include the manufacture of flash reducers used by our artillery to conceal their location from enemy observers. New River produced all such flash reducers used by our armed forces.

Volunteer Ordnance Works, at Chattanooga, Tennessee, the largest TNT plant in the United States, produced 828,000,000 pounds of TNT for the Army, Navy, and members of the United Nations.

Anhydrous ammonia is a basic ingredient for all explosives and it was to assure a constant flow of this vital material to the other ordnance plants that we erected for its manufacture the Missouri Ordnance Works, at Louisiana, Missouri.

Badger Ordnance Works, at Baraboo, Wisconsin, spreading over 10,000 acres of land, was originally designed for the manufacture of smokeless, cannon, and rifle powder. Later, the plant was expanded to include the production of rocket powder for both the Army and Navy.

The world's largest producer of rocket powder, Sunflower Ordnance Works, was built at Lawrence, Kansas. Here was produced most of the rocket powder that the Army, Navy, and Air Force so successfully used in blasting the enemy into defeat.

One of the great contributions of Hercules to the National Defense program was the development of rocket powder. Well before the war clouds threatened us, experimental work on rocket powder began at the Hercules Research Laboratory at Kenvil, New Jersey, and at our experiment station at Wilmington, Delaware, and continued at the Radford Ordnance Works until the process could be put in full production.

It was also at Radford that Hercules developed the supersonic method of testing rocket powder. This method saved the Government many millions of dollars in materials and man-hours, and assured a perfect powder for the combat zones. Another important Hercules contribution which we shared with industry was the invention of a high-speed sprinkler for the control of flash fires. This sprinkler is so sensitive and efficient that such fires were controlled before any serious damage could result.

All of our plants won the coveted Army-Navy E awards consistently, and all plants also were awarded the Treasury T flag for war bond purchases.

Another phase of Hercules activities was the part played by our shooter salesmen. These men were placed at the disposal of the Army and visited nearly every aerial gunnery training school operated by the Army, teaching future aerial gunners the principles of hitting moving targets. In the three years of this activity, they trained many thousands of gunners.

Hercules' plans for the postwar years are the same as before the war—to give the sportsmen of America the best possible powders for all types of shooting, whether in the field, at the traps, or target shooting with the rifle or pistol.—*Henry Marsh.*

HIGH STANDARD

In 1941, the High Standard Manufacturing Company was producing automatic pistols for commercial distribution with a small plant consisting of about 170 employees. In less than a year the company had grown to over 4,000 men, and was producing .50 caliber machine guns at a surprising rate.

Shortly thereafter, we started the manufacture of our .22 caliber automatic pistol for the government, and this continued without interruption until the spring of 1945. We also were the manufacturers of Deep Hole Drills previous to the war, and this business increased over ten times due to the numerous uses for which this drill was found to be adaptable. At the same time, we started the manufacture of rifle barrels in the Model 1903 A1, and in the Model 1917; also machine-gun barrels for M2 .30 caliber aircraft. In addition, we were making a quantity of machine-gun parts on subcontract. Also we manufactured barrels for the .45 Automatic pistol, and continued this until the spring of 1945, turning out a tremendously large quantity. We were then asked by the government to manufacture parts of a bomb fuse; and, although this was entirely different from the type of work that we had been doing on barrels, we set up the machinery required and got into production in large quantities in a surprisingly short time.

In addition, during the war we helped develop and produced a number of special items for the O.S.S. Our experimental department was also busy on new developments in an automatic pistol, and we produced one of these for the .380 Automatic cartridge, and one for the .38 Special.

The Corporation consisting of the original setup then known as the Company of about 170 men built new manufacturing space and grew to an organization of over 1,100.

Plans are in the works for a considerable increase in our production of .22 caliber pistols, and also for the production of the new .38 caliber pistols that will be an addition to our line in the postwar period.—*F. E. Bradley, President.*

JOHNSON AUTOMATICS

Primarily an arms research and development organization prior to World War II, Johnson Automatics undertook during the war, partially through subcontract, the mass production of small arms in response to orders for the Johnson semiautomatic rifle M1941 and Johnson light machine gun M1941 in caliber .30-'06 from the Netherlands Government late in 1940. The Johnson light machine gun M1941, first fired in original pilot-model form in July, 1940, was tested and ordered for military production within three months.

Facilities were established in Providence, Rhode Island, by early 1941 and initial deliveries commenced that year during which, as a result of extensive tests, the U. S. Marine Corps ordered M1941 Johnson light machine guns for parachute troops and raider units. At the same time, further Netherlands orders for both weapons were placed. Orders for Johnson rifles in 7 mm. were also filled for South America.

Marines from privates to colonels have carried Johnson light machine guns in the Pacific. Three were issued in each ten-man parachute squad. On Guam, Col. George Van Orden, USMC, then Deputy Chief of Staff, 3rd Division, was armed with a JLMG as his personal weapon.

A special rush order for these weapons was placed in 1943 by the hand-picked and secret-missioned First Special Service Force, U. S. Army, a Canadian-American task force organized under the direct supervision of the joint Chiefs of Staff, and commanded by Maj. Gen. Robert T. Frederick. Later referred to by the Germans as the Black Devils of Anzio, these Johnson-armed specialists, trained as commandos and paratroopers, fought brilliantly at Anzio, Cassino, up to Rome, and finally in France.

Under the operation of Lend-Lease our rifles and machine guns continued to be distributed to fill various other United Nations' requirements.

In addition to Johnson arms, we specialized in machine-gun and rifle barrel manufacture for the Army, and also produced antiaircraft shells for the Navy in a subsidiary plant.

Our postwar activities already include the operation and management of our subsidiary, Latisteel, Inc., at Pasadena, California, and Boston-Providence, an economic, factory-fabricated framework for all forms of building construction, already in extensive use on the West Coast and in the Middle West.

As before, our primary effort in the arms field will relate to research and development, especially in the categories of infantry, aircraft, antiaircraft weapons and devices.

Our most important immediate contribution to the shooters of America is our Custom Gun Department, which makes at once available our entire facilities, including barrel making, blueing, stocking, assembly, repair, testing, and inspection. Our highly experienced machine shop, chiefly engaged in producing special new models, will also be available, as will our velocity-testing equipment and target facilities for sighting in up to 600 yards.

Johnson semiautomatic rotary-feed rifles will not be produced for sporting use.—*Melvin M. Johnson, Jr., President.*

Lyman Sights

As we look back on the articles which we produced for the armed services during the past few years, it is surprising to note the number of commercial items that were suitable, without change, for military purposes. Civilian shooters can take patriotic pride in the fact that their continued interest and support in the years before World War II made available, for military purposes, items that otherwise would have taken valuable time to produce.

The No. 5 Ideal Powder Measure and the Lyman Tru-Line Loading Press were asked for almost as soon as war with Germany was declared. Cutts Comps on shotguns were needed by Army and Navy Air Forces in their gunnery training. Lyman No. 48C, No. 57E, and No. 57MS Metallic Receiver Sights helped in training of the armed forces. The M81 and M82 Telescope Sights for Sniper Rifles are essentially the popular Lyman Alaskan All-Weather Scope developed for sportsmen for use on high-powered rifles.

The early availability of the Thompson Submachine Gun was due, in some measure, to our being tooled and ready to produce in quantity the rear sights.

The Lyman Telescope Sights that small-bore rifle shooters use in matches in peace times were used for such different purposes as the sighting of guns for sinking floating mines, for testing power-operated turrets, and for signalling devices.

As a result of Government needs, research, and development hard-coated lenses will be supplied in Lyman Alaskan, Junior Targetspot, Targetspot, and Super Targetspot Scopes.

But it was not only our standard products that were needed. Our manufacturing facilities were devoted, for a long time on a "round-the-clock" basis, to making several of the component parts for the M1 .30 caliber Carbine, Aeroplane Landing Gear, Mechanical Oil and Air Filters, Component parts for the Springfield 1903 caliber .30-'06 and the British Enfield Rifles.

An important part of our postwar activites we expect will be to encourage interest in providing adequate, attractive facilities for civilian shooters.

We believe that, with suitable ranges for pistol, rifle, and shotgun shooting, and with programs designed for civilian shooters, shooting will attract as much interest as any other sport. These range facilities can be used for the education of youth with firearms. It will be not only good business but patriotic. By judicious management and co-operation, convenient, adequate facilities can be provided in most urban as well as rural communities.—*Henry H. Lyman, Manager.*

Marble

The quantity of manufactured articles used in the war just ended was so immense that the contribution by any individual concern was minor as concerns the over-all picture. We devoted our entire manufacturing facilities. The price, material, and labor situation, existing at this time makes it impossible to give an accurate survey of the future, but the following comments may be helpful.

Some items of our normal manufacture were beneficial to the war effort and we continued manufacturing such items as were required. Other items were discontinued, due to the need of labor and material for other goods. It was not difficult to convert to the manufacture of special gun sights or gun parts, and on these we were particularly busy.

The reconversion problem is difficult only to the extent of restrictions imposed by price ceilings, shortage of certain materials, and the labor situation. We will not manufacture some of our prewar lines until the above factors are more favorable. On other items we are proceeding in the usual manner, but due to a considerable backlog of orders and demands we will require a considerable period in which to satisfy our distributors.

It is still a little early to determine our entire program, but the easing of the war burden enables us to look forward with considerable optimism and we anticipate a very healthy future for the sporting goods industry.—*James T. Jones, General Manager.*

O.F. Mossberg & SONS, INC.

It was in November, 1940, when we first started to negotiate for our first war contract which was for .50 caliber machine-gun parts. We made our first shipment of these parts on April 7, 1941. A large order for Lee-Enfield rifle parts materialized on April 26, 1941, and we began shipment of these on June 21, 1941. Also in June, 1941, we received our first Government prime contract for .22 caliber, bolt-action training rifles which was our Model 42M slightly revised.

Our Model 42MB .22 caliber bolt-action rifles were used by the War Department for preliminary training purposes and many of these were also sent to foreign countries for training purposes, as well as for home defense and invasion use. In February, 1943, we started to supply the War Department with our Model 44US, .22 caliber bolt-action rifle which was especially designed for, and approved by the War Department. This was an adaptation of our Model 44B target rifle, which we formerly sold to the civilian trade. This rifle proved very popular and successful in preliminary military training, and was later adopted by the Navy Department in their preliminary rifle-training program.

To meet a serious shortage of certain hobs and gauges, we made a study of thread-gauge and hob manufacturing technique, secured the necessary equipment, and set up our own thread-gauge department for turning out these very critical, precision-built items. We gradually expanded this department so that within a few months after its inception, we were not only taking care of our own requirements but were making these items for other war producers who, like ourselves, had been unable to procure them from regular sources.

After Pearl Harbor, we embarked on a program to encourage owners of rifles to share them with their neighbors, to provide means for as many people as possible to be trained in rifle marksmanship. This was very important in view of the startling discovery that less than 2 per cent of the inductees knew anything about rifle marksmanship. In conjunction with the preinduction rifle-training program sponsored by the NRA and endorsed by the War Department and other Government branches, we had prepared for us by the NRA "The Guidebook to Rifle Marksmanship," and have supplied thousands of copies to prospective inductees, rifle clubs, plant guards, and various branches of the armed services.

We have been able to reconvert to our normal peacetime production without having had to lay off a single employee. The first model we were able to offer our trade was the Model 44US, inasmuch as we were in production on this model for the War Department. Shipments of this model and on the Model 41M fifteen-shot automatic .22 caliber rifle are now being made. By the end of the year we expect to be shipping a total of five models. We should be operating at our normal production rate by early 1946.—*Harold F. Mossberg, President.*

Remington DUPONT

REMINGTON

PETERS DUPONT

The story of Remington's military production in World War II involved two distinct developments. One was the conversion and expansion of the Company's own facilities, beginning before the start of the ordnance program. The second was the Company's participation in the ordnance program, including the establishment and operation of five new Government-owned ammunition plants.

Upon Government request Remington personnel scheduled, expedited, and inspected practically all machinery for the entire industry after the "First Wave" and for the Russian Lend-Lease program—27,300 production machines, having a value of approximately $150,000,000.

Remington produced a total of over 16,700,000,000 rounds of standard military ammunition of thirty-three different types. This was the largest quantity produced by any manufacturer and was approximately 37 per cent of total U. S. production. It was almost five times the quantity made by all U. S. manufacturers combined in the first World War. The Company also produced about two billion rim-fire cartridges and over a quarter billion shot shells for the Government. Other production for the Government included priming and loading of 20 mm. cartridges, fuses, and artillery projectiles, shotguns and rim-fire rifles, clay targets, traps, and many miscellaneous items.

Describing what he termed two of Remington's outstanding contributions to the war, C. K. Davis, President and General Manager, has said:

"Remington's most important single contribution was probably in connection with the development of the .50 caliber incendiary bullet, in which the Company played a leading role. General Arnold, Commanding General of the Army Air Forces, called this ammunition the outstanding small-arms development of the war for use against aircraft.

"Another significant contribution was the large-scale production of caliber .22 cartridges and rifles, shot shells, shotguns, clay targets, and traps which enabled the Army and Navy to train huge numbers of men quickly, cheaply, and effectively—particularly aerial gunners—and helped to make American marksmanship the best in the world."

Through its Technical Department, Remington contributed importantly to the improvement of existing military products and the creation of new weapons and ammunition required by global warfare. For example, to increase the daily output of Springfield rifles as desired by Ordnance, the Company undertook extensive design and process changes, which resulted in a lighter gun, a substantial reduction in labor and material costs, and a speeding up of production at a large saving to the Government. Of the ninety-one components of the Model 1903 rifle, twelve were completely eliminated in the A3 model, twenty-three previously requiring forging were redesigned so that they could be stamped and formed, and only twenty-four parts remained unchanged. The Company also developed a special model of this weapon—the A4—for use by snipers. An interesting contribution was the development of the .45 shot cartridge which was supplied to air force personnel as part of a jungle kit for use in hunting game for food. Another contribution was the adaptation of one of the Company's non-corrosive priming mixtures to the caliber .30 carbine cartridge. This cartridge marked the first use by the armed forces of the noncorrosive type of priming which Remington pioneered for American sportsmen. Many wartime technical developments are still confidential.

Having fulfilled its military assignment for the Government, Remington Arms Company has ordered full speed ahead on its postwar program of reconversion.

Remington plans to spend at least "several millions of dollars" both at its Bridgeport ammunition plant and also at its firearms

plant at Ilion, New York. The entire project is of such scope that several years will be required for its completion.

As to the final objective, Company officials say simply it is to make the two Remington plants, here and at Ilion, the best in the world for the efficient production of sporting ammunition and arms.—*Frank J. Kahrs, Promotion Division.*

SAVAGE

During World War II, the Utica plant of Savage Arms Corporation produced approximately 1,250,000 Thompson .45 caliber submachine guns, and more than 300,000 .50 caliber aircraft-type Browning machine guns. When the war ended on August 14, the Company was well advanced in the tooling work for the new M3 ultra-high-speed .50 caliber aircraft-type Browning machine gun, capable of firing 1,200 shots per minute—in comparison with 750 per minute, the speed of the previous model.

All the Corporation's military work was cancelled on August 15 and the reconversion work necessary to produce the Corporation's regular output of Savage, Stevens, Fox, Springfield rifles and shotguns is progressing at top speed. It is expected that volume production will soon be running on such well-known sportsmen's products, as the Savage Model 99 High Power rifle and Savage Automatic shotguns.

The Stevens Division of the Corporation at Chicopee Falls, Massachusetts, was expanded during the war by the purchase of two other plants. With the increased facilities, over 1,000,000 Lee-Enfield rifles were produced for the British and United States Governments. Bomb and tail fuses and rocket components were also produced in large quantities. The Stevens Division is now producing Stevens and Springfield brand rifles and shotguns, and the plants acquired for the manufacture of the Lee-Enfield rifles are being rapidly converted for the manufacture of hand- and power-type lawn mowers.

New sporting arms models have been designed and will be placed in production as soon as circumstances permit.—*F. F. Hickey, President.*

SMITH & WESSON

For a long, long time we at Smith & Wesson have been looking forward to the day when we could say hello again to the target shooters of America.

But, first, we want to take our hats off to the magnificent contribution you and all your members made to the war effort. Our congratulations to the NRA for your splendid preinduction programs, and to the thousands of NRA members who went into the armed forces and took with them invaluable knowledge and experience.

Here at Smith & Wesson, we had to give up sporting guns way back in 1940 when our friends, the British, asked for every weapon we could produce. To fill their urgent need for sidearms, we adapted our Military & Police Model to the .38 S&W cartridge with the heavy, 200-grain bullet.

This revolver became officially known as the Smith & Wesson .38-inch revolver, or more commonly as the .38/200 British Service Revolver. It was produced in tremendous quantities throughout the war and is probably the most widely used military revolver ever made, having seen active service in practically all branches of the British Empire Forces.

Late in 1941, we went into production on a second wartime gun known as the .38 Victory Model. This is also an adaptation of the Military & Police design and is chambered for the .38 S&W Special cartridge. However, instead of the commercial high polish and checkered stocks, Government specifications called for sandblast finish and smooth walnut grips.

The Victory Model was adopted in the summer of 1942 as the standard sidearm for all U. S. Naval Flying Personnel. It was also used extensively by the Coast Guard and Merchant Marine, and was chosen as the plant-protection weapon in thousands of America's war industries.

At the time of Pearl Harbor, the capacity of the Smith & Wesson plant was rated at 450 guns a day, and military authorities felt new equipment was required for too many other types of material to allow expansion. However, we feel it is a fine testimonial to the efforts and efficiency of every man in the factory that at the peak of war production we were able to turn out over 1,200 guns a day. On September 13, 1944, our 1,000,000th war gun was presented to the U. S. Army Ordnance Department, and an additional 150,000 guns were made before the war ended.

As we swing into commercial production again, we don't want to promise too much because we still have some Government contracts to finish up. Machines have to be retooled for our regular models, and personnel retrained for work to commercial specifications. Our schedule starts with the square-butt .38 Special caliber Military & Police Revolver with four-inch barrel and blue finish. Two-inch, five-inch, and six-inch barrel lengths will be available soon, and nickel guns as well. However, it's going to be a little while still before we can run the round-butt Military Police frame.

The three target models on the K frame—the K-22 Masterpiece, the K-32 Target, and .38 Military & Police Target—are coming through second and should begin to reach dealers very early in 1946. The heavy-frame models—the .357 Magnum, .38-44 Heavy Duty and Outdoorsman, .44 Specials, and 1917 Model Army Model .45—will be next.

Initially, we do not plan to introduce any radically different models, but we feel sure shooters will be glad to hear that we are putting the K-22 Masterpiece's micrometer, click sight on all our heavy and medium-weight target revolvers. The three K-Target Models have also been redesigned as a matched set of companion guns. Besides the click sight, all three will have a new, improved, short lockwork action . . . the K-22's built-in antibacklash trigger feature . . . ribbed barrels . . . and a new, wide hammer spur for rapid single action.

We're also building a new home for Smith & Wesson in East Springfield which we plan to make one of the most modern and efficient manufacturing plants in the country. We'd like to extend a cordial invitation to you to drop in. We'll always be glad to see you.—*Smith & Wesson.*

WEAVER

The W. R. Weaver Company, like most manufacturers of sporting goods in America, has devoted its production facilities during the war years to turning out some of the weapons of victory. The men and women of our enlarged organization have been very proud of their part in contributing some of the tools which their fighting men could use, and I, personally,

am mighty proud of the wartime job our workers have done.

Our Company was asked to manufacture prisms and lenses for binoculars. It was necessary to expand our facilities to produce the desired quantities, but little time was lost in getting our output up to requirements.

Later, when the need arose for a sturdy, dependable sniper's scope, we were ready to go into instant production for Uncle Sam. It was not necessary to design a new scope nor to retool our plant to make scopes from a Government design. Our regular Weaver Scope Model 330 was just what the Army wanted. We merely stepped up production and diverted our shipments from sporting goods dealers to the Army. Thousands of these scopes were built by our Company for Uncle Sam's snipers. The last contract was completed this year.

Although the thoughts and efforts of our production departments were on war orders, the activities of our laboratories and experimental departments were directed also toward turning out an even finer line of scopes for sportsmen. Immediately upon completion of the Army's last order, we began the tooling-up process for our new line of scopes. Near the first of the year we will be able to announce our plans and will be ready to start shipments. With millions of men trained in the use of firearms, we confidently expect a tremendous growth of interest in hunting and sports shooting.—*W. R. Weaver, President.*

WINCHESTER DIVISION OF OLIN INDUSTRIES INC. **Western** UNITED STATES

While the Western and Winchester plants held the ammunition production line as early arsenals for the United Nations in World War II, the greatest small-arms ammunition plant in the nation's military history was engineered and operated in St. Louis by The United States Cartridge Company—a subsidiary of Olin Industries, Inc. Its total production of rifle and machine gun ammunition—6,738,009,746 loaded rounds, principally caliber .50 and caliber .30 of various types—exceeded that of all small-arms ammunition plants in World War I.

The gigantic production of the St. Louis Ordnance Plant, added to the output of the Western and Winchester factories, brought the total production of Olin Industries operations to 15,260,125,254 loaded rounds of service and training ammunition. This was accomplished, too, while we were producing billions of components for other Army and Navy contractors. The products included more than one and one-half billion pounds of cartridge metal, equivalent in dead-weight tonnage to sixteen battleships of the Missouri class; more than a billion copper tubes for cartridge-core radiators for liquid-cooled aircraft engines; hundreds of millions of primers for the new-type fire bombs which devastated Japanese cities. In all, more than 125,000 workers were employed in Olin Industries war production operations during the war.

John M. Olin, president of Olin Industries, lists the following as among the outstanding technical contributions of the Olin Industries organization to the winning of the war:

Development by the Winchester Repeating Arms Company division at New Haven, Conn., of the Winchester carbine, adopted by the Army in competitive tests as the U. S. Carbine Caliber .30 M1. The Winchester carbine was designed and a working model produced in just thirteen days in August of 1941. Previously, Winchester had designed the carbine cartridge to Army ballistic specification.

Tooling up the Winchester factory for the first production of the Garand rifle by a commercial manufacturer, and the production of more than one-half million Garands in addition to nearly one million Winchester carbines and hundreds of thousands of training and guard weapons.

Adaptation to military rifle, machine gun, and carbine cartridges of its exclusive smokeless "ball powder" by the Western Cartridge Company division at East Alton, Ill., and the stepping up of production of carbine-type "ball powder" to ten times the ordinary rate of manufacture of smokeless powder.

Development by The United States Cartridge Company of a supercartridge for heavy machine guns, which was an ace in the hole for the Allies at the close of the war, and which still remains on the Army's list of restricted products.

Co-ordination of manufacturing processes by Western and Winchester with the requirements of two sorely pressed Allied nations, and the subsequent manufacture by Western of hundreds of millions of rounds of 7.92 mm. cartridges for the Chinese, and equally vast quantities by Winchester of .303 British cartridges for Great Britain.

"War-time production of firearms and ammunition in astronomical quantities, and almost overnight revision of manufacturing schedules to meet changing military conditions, have given us a new conception of the capabilities of the American arms and ammunition industry," Mr. Olin says. "We intend to carry over into commercial production the improved techniques developed during the war, and to utilize new resources for research and production.

"Like other industries, our first job is to supply the deficiency in standard products which developed during the war period. Concurrently, we will carry along research projects which promise to pay big dividends to American sportsmen."

Wollensak.

Wollensak Optical Company, of Rochester, New York, during World War II devoted 100 per cent of its production to war work. Many Wollensak instruments familiar to riflemen went to the various services with improvements in design and construction.

Typical was the M82 telescopic sight used by Allied snipers against enemy patrols in all theaters of action. Thousands of these instruments were supplied. The well-known Wollensak spotting scope went to war with coated optics, as did the famous Wollensak prism binoculars.

In addition to these items, Wollensak also converted to war use its still- and cine-camera lenses and shutters. Wollensak furnished illuminating sights for night sighting, and was the exclusive manufacturer of the optical unit for the high-precision Norden bomb sight which was used with deadly accuracy on B-29 bombings of Germany and Japan.

Wollensak's wartime experience will go into the manufacture of its peacetime products. The spotting scope reaching the market from now on is a vastly improved instrument. It is possible that lens coating, which increases light transmission and reduces internal reflection and flare, will be included, if demanded by users. Wollensak is producing its 6 x 30 and 8 x 30 prism binoculars with coated optics as standard equipment.

For the rifleman, Wollensak is seriously considering a rifle scope which will make possible the same accuracy for high-powered rifles on distant targets as was afforded wartime snipers on combat targets.—*Andy Wollensak, President.*

POWDER SMOKE: THE NEWS DESK . . . READERS COMMENTS

"DUST BINS"

Victoria, Australia.

Editor:

I think I can explain the doubt as to the origin of the term "dust bin" as applied to the large bombs described in W. H. B. Smith's article in the May, 1945, issue. An Englishman describes as a "dust bin" what an American calls a garbage can, and the bomb closely resembles this useful article, much magnified.

Will you please thank Mr. W. H. B. Smith for his rather too-appreciative comments on the Austen gun. I was one of its parents. The gun was designed, as he suggests, by putting together the most promising parts of the British Sten and several German types, largely with the idea of avoiding milling operations, as we were rather short of milling machines. Three guns were made, largely by hand, and proved so successful on test that production was started without modifying the design.

Uarre Riddell.

OUTSTANDING

Dallas, Texas.

Editor:

In the June, 1945, issue of your fine magazine I read with a great deal of pleasure the short article, "He Shot First—and Straight," re Staff Sergeant Junior J. Spurrier.

This article stated that Spurrier was a member of Co. "C," 134th Infantry. I think you will find that he was a member of "E" Company. At least he was a member of the 2nd Battalion, because that was the Battalion at that time commanded by Lt. Col. Roecker.

I also think that you will find (as I did from talking to eyewitnesses) that Spurrier killed more Germans than you gave him credit for, and that he used more weapons, both American and German, than you give him credit for.

In my opinion, the 134th Infantry was the outstanding Infantry Regiment in an outstanding division, and the 2nd Battalion was probably the outstanding Battalion of the regiment. A performance that stands out, as Spurrier's does, in an outfit where outstanding performance is the rule, not the exception, is really something!

I had the pleasure of personally meeting Staff Sergeant Spurrier while he was in 35th Division Clearing Station. He is a typical American soldier who did things, and the only regret of the Commanding Officer of 134th Infantry was that Spurrier was not from Nebraska. Incidentally, it was always Staff Sergeant Spurrier's practice to go into a town or enemy position by himself, away from his platoon. In his case, the operation was always successful.

Lt. Col. Jack K. Tingle.

NO ALIBI

Editor: *Newtown, Pennsylvania.*

The NRA registered pistol match held at Pittsburgh October 6th and 7th was the first that I have attended using the new no-alibi rule. I believe that I represent the majority of the shooters present in giving this innovation my unqualified approval. The firing line was neither delayed nor disturbed by the usual one or two functional failures that always seem to occur in every string. The responsibility for the operation of the gun is now squarely up to its owner. Fellow shooters are no longer penalized by amateur gunsmithing or negligence in cleaning the piece.

Ammunition failures that cannot be traced back to the gun are rare. I kept records of over six cases of .22 shells that went through my own guns without one primer failure. I will admit that the present war material does present grounds for complaint. I know of two shots lost at Pittsburgh because of no priming compound. But the shooter, even though he was kept from winning the caliber aggregate by this mishap, believes that the good of the new rule far outweighs such personal considerations. The center-fire cartridge, factory or handload, that doesn't shoot when properly hit is just as rare as the .22. We shooters will now have to keep our thumbs away from the falling hammer, and keep our handloads dry and free from oil around primer pockets.

Too, there is sure to be a more critical attitude

toward the short action and trigger or action adjustment by softening the mainsprings. The short action, as often applied, is a compromise with the margin of safety between good ignition and poor ignition with its subsequent inaccuracy or even complete failure to fire. Any American handgun, when it leaves the factory, has a hammer heavy enough, driven by a spring strong enough, to ignite positively any standard primer.

The hammer reaches the primer with an amount of energy that can be mathematically stated:

$$\text{Energy} = \frac{WV^2}{62.4}$$

Where W=Hammer Weight and V=Hammer Velocity. Now—if you reduce the action movement by half and assume constant acceleration from the spring, your velocity must be half and the energy is reduced to one-fourth of the factory amount.

When an action is shortened, a stronger spring should be supplied to obtain a final striking energy somewhere near the factory standard. Then we won't hear the sad stories about hard primers. There also is sure to be a marked increase in the replacement of hammer-springs business from the boys who have hand-worked or polished their mainsprings so the gun will cock easier or to reduce the pressure on the sear for a better pull.

The .22 auto has been noted for its ability to delay a match because of malfunctions. Failure to load, assuming no deformed ammunition, could usually be traced to bent magazine lips, a weak magazine spring, or just dirt. Failure to fire often came from the fact the cartridge was not driven home by the slide and was cushioned by grease between the head and the barrel when struck by the firing pin. Look for abnormal bulges around the head as evidence of this. Failure to extract is often due to a rough, deformed chamber. The powder gases will cut a ring in the chamber .010" deep at the end of the case, while abrasion from dirt and primer fillers cuts deep grooves in the side walls. Make a cast and see for yourself.

The usual picture of distress is the man whose gun has failed to eject and the empty case is firmly wedged between the slide and the barrel. This could be due to the extractor not holding the case firmly until it hits the ejector; but always suspect the chamber, too, since most guns work well without the extractor.

Many things may upset the timing of the .22 auto: worn recoil springs, worn hammer springs, et cetera. But usually it is just dirt and neglect. The most hopeful sign of the new era was to see the boys sitting around with rags, even handkerchiefs, wiping the excess lubricant off their ammunition. They were *preventing* alibis!

Shooting has come of age! We are now like other sports—no "take it over" if we strike out—and I am looking forward to a very pleasant and active 1946.

L. A. Benton.

PROSPECT FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Omaha, Nebraska.

Editor:

In anticipation of the time when I shall again be called "Mr.," I would like to express my gratitude to the Association for its unfailing support in sending THE RIFLEMAN to me while in the Army—both overseas and in the States. In service I realized the immense value of the proper training and sportsmanship that is characteristic of the Association.

When I am released from the Army, I plan on renewing, even increasing, my interest in competitive shooting and the promotion of skilled marksmanship for everybody, of all ages. My hat is off to you and I hope to be associated with this great organization for life.

L. Baron.

VOTE OF THANKS

FMF Pacific.

Editor:

My buddies and I would appreciate it very much if you would publish a vote of thanks to Life Member James Clapper, of Kapaa, Kauai, T. H., for the innumerable times he has made available his guns and reloading tools so that those of us who are interested in small-arms target work could shoot even though our own equipment was not available. It is members like him who make the National Rifle Association the grand organization that it is today.

S/Sgt. George W. Pierson.

WAR AND POSTWAR

St. Paul, Minnesota.

Editor:

Now that the war is over, we hope we may look forward to an early resumption of ammunition releases for sale to civilians. We also hope we may soon again be able to obtain rifles of both new and old types. But with the advent of our new-type semiautomatics, what will our matches be like? Surely we shall no longer worry about ten shots Rapid Fire at 200 and 300 yards when our new clip capacity is eight. In such a Rapid-Fire string we must include a reload because efficient reloading under stress is just as important to the good rifleman as accurate shooting. Perhaps we shall now graduate to sixteen-shot strings within the same time limits as before. It is also possible

that this new equipment will revive interest in the 500-yard Rapid Fire range.

And what about our snipers, scope-sighted rifles? Will we have long-range matches particularly suited to such equipment? It is all something to think about when planning for the future. Perhaps at last we can create the "color" so necessary to rifle shooting to make the sport interesting to the lay spectator and thus increase its popularity.

During the early stages of the war, I was employed as an engineer at the Twin Cities Ordnance Plant, near Minneapolis. This plant was engaged in the manufacture of .30 and .50 caliber ammunition. With a few exceptions, we manufactured all types of both calibers. Perhaps a few observations resulting from that experience may prove of interest to others in the shooting game.

For close to thirty years I have been closely, but quietly, connected with the shooting game, and I am well familiar with the pleasure of rolling my own shooting stuff and measuring the groups with a finely adjusted calipers.

I also had had some general manufacturing experience and I must admit my first introduction to large-scale ammunition manufacture, wartime model, appalled me. The equipment and machines were new, but for the most part of a design that might have been up to date thirty years ago. I later had a hand in improving the efficiency of this equipment and, in many cases, it was possible to eliminate hand operation entirely with an increase rather than sacrifice of accuracy. I was not alone in wondering where Frankfort Arsenal had been all those years.

Our original setup appeared to be merely a handloading system on a grand scale. To me, the only compensation for such a system lay in the quality of the ammunition turned out by green hands during that early period when we were still using the full gilding metal bullet jackets on our 150-grain .30 caliber ball cartridge. Everyone was new at the game and overly careful. The result was that lot after lot fired ten-shot test groups at 600 yards with a mean radius of less than two inches. I have such a target which I am framing for my den as a souvenir. Plenty more can be produced for those who say, as I once said—impossible.

But that was too good to last. As a nation, we were becoming short of copper and the Ordnance Department decided to introduce the bimetal jacket for all bullets with compressible cores such as ball and tracer. The bimetal material is made up of a sheet of steel coated on each side with different thicknesses of copper (gilding metal). The copper coating on the inside of the jacket was just thick enough to prevent corrosion and to assist in drawing the jacket during the forming procedure. The outside coating was somewhat heavier so as to take properly to the rifling. At least such was the theory.

It was during our attempt to make this bullet work that we ran up smack against the ways of the Army—ways that only the Army can understand. We were issued a new product to work with, a product of vastly different characteristics and weight. Yet, because the regulations read so and so, we were required to maintain the original thickness of the jacket, and the original dimensions of the bullet without in any way reducing specified weights. Of course, even the Army finally had to admit a compromise was necessary. But when they did compromise, their compromise affected only weight. They still doggedly insisted on maintaining the original jacket thickness regardless of the fact that the *steel jacket* was both stiffer and stronger than the original gilding metal. From an engineering point of view, it seemed logical to reduce the thickness of the steel jacket just enough to approximate the elastic qualities of the old jacket and by so doing, increase slightly the cross section of the lead core. Such a procedure, we felt, would maintain both the original weight and dimensions and at the same time create a jacket sufficiently elastic to leave a minimum of fouling in the barrel. But no. We were required to maintain the original thickness and as a result, square bullets issued forth from the guns because they were not flexible enough to properly upset and take the rifling. And you should have seen how the fouling built up in our test guns. Accuracy went wild. Lot after lot had to be accepted on a sort of special-dispensation basis because test groups exceeded specifications. Finally, we did reach minimum accuracy specifications, but never again did we obtain the accuracy of our full gilding metal jacket.

Much of this bimetal ammunition will probably be sold to civilians for use on their rifle ranges. It will serve its purpose, but the user must be very careful to clean out all metal fouling after each shoot. If he does not, it will build up at a remarkable rate, tapering to a high point about five inches from the muzzle and then down again to zero at the muzzle.

F. W. Hallberg.

SPECIAL WAR SERVICE EMBLEM

The war service of NRA members, forced to remain at home during this war, is to receive special recognition. Thousands of club members patriotically and unselfishly gave time and effort to insure the success of their Association's and their club's wartime training program. To these men, in grateful appreciation, the NRA will award the felt emblem here illustrated. Embroidered in white, red, and gold silk on a blue felt background this emblem should be a continuing source of pride to its wearer.

The basic V for Victory design will be distributed to all instructors who took part in this program within an NRA Approved Small Arms Firing School. For those who served one hundred hours or more, prior to V-J Day, the additional legend specifying OUTSTANDING MERIT will be added to the basic design. All clubs operating such schools will be sent further details. These emblems will be supplied to the school Adjutant for distribution. Check with this school official to be certain that the deserving members of your club receive this award.

CHALLENGE

The Rio Grande Rifle and Pistol Club is interested in firing postal rifle matches with any club in the United States. The course of fire would be five shots in each of four positions, metallic sights, at fifty feet. Address James A. DeJulio, Secretary, Rio Grande Rifle and Pistol Club, Box 1663, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

NRA MEMBERS ELECT

At the Annual Meeting of NRA Members held at the Hotel Statler in Washington, D. C. on Friday evening, November 9th, 1945, the twenty Life Members named below were nominated and elected Directors of the Association for the three-year term ending in 1948:

Mr. Thurman Randle, (Texas)
Col. F. W. Parker, Jr., AUS (Ill.)
Mr. H. N. Marsh, (Delaware)
Mr. J. W. Hession, (Conn.)
Mr. E. F. Bridgman, (Mass.)
Colonel E. F. Sloan, USA (D.C.M.)
Mr. J. J. Ring, (Wisconsin)
Mr. P. D. Andrews, (N. Y.)
Mr. James Affleck, (Pa.)
Mr. Kinsley J. Voorhees, (Calif.)
Major General Julian Smith, (USMC)
Mr. Harry D. Linn, (Iowa)
Mr. Russell Wiles, (Ill.)
Mr. Russell Wisler, (Calif.)
Mr. R. O. Sinclaire, (Fla.)
Mr. John M. Dwelle, (N. C.)
Mr. Merritt E. Carpenter, (Vermont)
Mr. Clark L. Wilson, (Nebr.)
Lt. Col. E. O. Swanson, USMCR (Minn.)
Brig. Gen'l. Sidney Hinds, USA

Speakers of the evening included NRA Executive Vice-President Major General M. A. Reckord, recently returned to the Association after nearly five years of distinguished service with the Army; Mr. C. B. Lister, Secretary-Treasurer, who reported that the Association had enjoyed another year of splendid progress and that the future of the organization had never been brighter; and Colonel E. F. Sloan, Director of Civilian Marksmanship. Colonel Sloan told the members that wartime restrictions on the sale of surplus ordnance small arms and equipment, useful to shooters, had been lifted by the War Department and announced that his office would soon resume its normal peacetime services to NRA members and member clubs.

REGISTERED TOURNAMENTS

At the meeting of the NRA Executive Committee held at Headquarters on November 10th, action was taken to resume our full registered tournament program. It is now possible for us to register all classes of rifle and pistol tournaments, both gallery and outdoors. Those interested in registering their tournaments are urged to do so as early as possible to be sure of desired dates.

NEW PISTOL RULE

Some inquiries have been received as to the interpretation of the new "no alibi" pistol rule so far as this rule will affect Slow-Fire shooting. The new rule is quoted below for everyone's information and from this it will be seen that Slow-Fire is not materially affected.

"*Misfires and jams*—If a cartridge misfires, or if a gun jams at Timed or Rapid Fire, the competitor will keep the muzzle of the pistol or revolver pointed toward the targets, manually cock the piece or operate the slide, and continue firing the string. He will not be allowed to refire the string because of the misfire, nor because of the disabled piece or a malfunction. At Slow Fire, a new cartridge may be loaded to replace the one which misfired, or the gun may be changed if ruled to be "disabled," but the string must be completed within the original time limit."

CHALLENGE

The Mattison Gun Club (Jeanne Kahler, Secretary, 1505 West State Street, Rockford, Illinois) is interested in firing postal matches with any club in the country. Five high out of ten to count, five shots (or ten if they prefer) in each of four positions, .22 caliber rifle at fifty feet.

NRA BOARD TO MEET

As provided in the by-laws of the Association, the Annual Business Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held in Washington, D. C., on Friday, February 1, 1946. The meeting, to be held at the Hotel Statler, is for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year and for the consideration of such other business as may properly come before the Board.

A meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at the offices of the Association on the following morning, February 2 at ten o'clock.

SPORTS POLL

The American Legion magazine asked quite a number of returning veterans what was their favorite form of recreation. Almost seventy out of every hundred said, "I want to go hunting!" Almost sixty-two out of every hundred said, "Next to hunting, fishing is my choice!"

Here's the score on that survey:

Hunting	69.33%
Fishing	61.87
Swimming	56.04
Baseball	43.01
Football	32.29
Camping	31.61
Motorboating	29.58
Trap or Target Shooting	26.87
Skating	26.05
Golf	22.52
Hiking	19.54
Bicycling	15.47
Flying	14.52
Sailing	11.26
Skiing	9.36
Badminton	5.97
Archery	4.61
Basketball	4.21
Horseback Riding	2.31

Of all of these forms of recreation, however, two are standouts: Hunting and Fishing! It is up to us to see that the boys coming back will get plenty of both!—*"Outdoor Georgia."*

REBIRTH OF HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUES

Joseph Sternbach, coach of the Christopher Columbus High School rifle team, The Bronx, New York, believes that, with the War Department's recent resumption of its policy of stimulating rifle instruction by providing necessary equipment, schools in his area will grasp the opportunity of organizing rifle squads and teams.

"There never was a lack of interest in rifle shooting. The skill, judgment, and co-ordination required to become a marksman will always be a lure to schoolboys and girls. With War Department sanction and help, and with the assistance being given by the National Rifle Association, the sport should hit a new high. Not only is the knowledge of guns and how to use them essential from a military point of view, but it is also of paramount importance from the enjoyment, good citizenship, and sportsmanship it develops and provides."

PISTOL VERSUS BOWS

At a recent three-day sports and hobby show in Camden, New Jersey, members of the William O. Meader Rifle and Pistol Club, of Haddonfield, New Jersey, fired .38 pistols in competition with archers. Both teams fired from twenty-five yards at Army "L," five-inch-bull targets, thirty shots per man, three men on each team.

The first night, the pistol men won. The second match was won by the archers, and the third night ended in a tie. In the shoot-off, Bill Meader, Bill Pike, and Ed Clement, composing the pistol team, lost on the third round by throwing a "nine." The archers held to "tens." It might be noted that the archers were all champions.

VASSOS TO DESIGN GALLERIES

Another old American institution is being modernized in anticipation of a postwar boom. This was indicated in an announcement by the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute that it has engaged the services of the noted industrial designer, Colonel John Vassos, to create the up-to-date shooting gallery. His designs are expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Recent surveys point to a greatly increased interest in hunting and in all shooting sports since the end of the war, and gallery shooting, long one of the country's favorite forms of low-cost recreation, is believed to be headed for unprecedented popularity. Survey findings indicate that an increase of at least 50 per cent in the number of galleries will be needed to meet the requirements of probable postwar enthusiasts.

AUTOMATIC WEAPONS

Automatic firearms which have been brought into the country as war souvenirs must be registered with the Treasury Department.

Such guns are described officially as "firearms of the automatic type, such as machine guns, submachine guns, or any type of gun from which a number of shots or bullets may be discharged with one continuous pull of the trigger."

Persons having possession of such guns should report immediately to the nearest investigator in charge of the Alcohol Tax Unit, Internal Revenue Bureau. He will furnish details relative to all provisions of the National Firearms Act, and help such people comply with the law. Possessors of such weapons are urged to render them permanently inoperative to prevent them from falling into the hands of the criminal element.

STOLEN GUNS

One Government Model Colt .45 Automatic, Serial Number C-3587. John L. Goodlow, Sgt., 2nd Service Co., Service Bn., Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

One Winchester 52, heavy barrel, Serial No. B-62939. Fred H. Warnsmann, 3308 Edgerton Rd., Baltimore 15, Md.

One German Walther Automatic Pistol (Model P-38), Serial Number 9888. Lt. Vernon B. Rasmussen, Small Arms Branch, Ordnance School, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

One pistol, German make, manufactured by Franz Stock, Berlin; .22 caliber, ten-shot Automatic, No. 619, barrel and receiver of one-piece construction; over-all length six inches; grips, black plastic with the name Stock on upper end of grips. Malcolm L. Jeune, 109 Winter Avenue, Conimicut, R. I.

COMING EVENTS

Registered Class "C" Tournaments

California, December 14—Tamalpais Gallery Pistol at Alto. Francis Wadman, Route 1, Box 854, Mill Valley.

December 16—San Francisco Police Monthly Pistol. E. J. Dutil, 324 16th Avenue, San Francisco.

Nonregistered

New Jersey, January 5-6—President's Match, 50 shots prone, 50 meters. Swiss Rifle Association of Hudson County, 2217 West Street, Union City. Catherine Natusko, Secretary.

Wilfred W. Mackey

Wilfred W. Mackey, NRA Life Member and member of the Franklin (Pennsylvania) Rifle Club, passed away August 8, 1945.

Born and reared in Franklin, Pennsylvania, Mr. Mackey was a very active member in the Franklin Rifle Club, of which he was president for many years. He was also a former member of the Butler Rifle Club, and of the State Rifle and Revolver Association.

He took part in many rifle and revolver matches, and enjoyed many friends in the shooting game.

Earl D. Sulcer

One of the most generally liked shooters in the Middle West, Earl D. Sulcer, died on October 14th at the Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He was fifty-seven years of age. Born in Ohio, he began his shooting career while in the Railway Mail Service stationed at Chicago. He moved to Warsaw, Indiana, in 1938, and was a member of the rifle club there at the time of his death. His wife survives him.

James F. Riggs

James F. Riggs, of Tracy, California, was instantly killed in an automobile accident near his home on October 13. Mr. Riggs was an active and enthusiastic sportsman and one of the men instrumental in the formation of the Tracy Rifle and Pistol Club, having been its first president. "Jim" was a veteran of both World Wars. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Leila Riggs.

W. R. Rostron

W. R. (Bill) Rostron died at the Veterans Hospital, Dayton, Ohio, on October 18, at the age of sixty-five.

Mr. Rostron was a native of Sidney, Ohio, where he was an organizer of the Sidney Rifle and Sidney Pistol Clubs. He was a veteran of the Spanish-American War, and was a regular attendant at the National Matches at Camp Perry since 1923. He was noted for his remarkable vision and shot iron sights very well to the time of his death.

He was a top-notch shooter in western Ohio for many years and will be greatly missed by the many shooters who knew him.

Walter Ambrush

Walter Ambrush, NRA member, of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, was killed September 26, when an automobile in which he was a passenger was wrecked near New Village, New Jersey. Ambrush and a friend were returning from a groundhog hunt when their car crashed into a tractor-trailer which had stopped for repairs.

Walter Ambrush was well known in Pennsylvania shooting circles and his untimely death will be mourned by many. He was thirty-nine years old.

Capt. Wm. J. Kossler

We learn just as we go to press of the death of Captain William Kossler, captain of the Coast Guard Rifle Team from 1929 to 1932. Captain Kossler served twenty-five years in the Coast Guard, seeing active service in both World Wars. Shooters everywhere will remember and mourn him.

DOPE BAG ☆ ☆ ☆ Conducted by F. C. NESS

THIS MONTH:

The Carbine on Small Deer · Seating Shotgun Wads · Stocking Method · Homemade Reticules · Belt Sheaths and Holsters · Chuck Rifles, Loads and Ballistics · New Safety and Mount · Old Bolt Actions · Letters · Trade Dope.

M1 CARBINE ON DEER. On September First Sgt. Robert Chadwick wrote from Germany about using the issue carbine and ammunition on small (60-65 pounds) European deer. After many hunts, 48 deer were killed and 6 were lost. The hard-nose Service bullets were altered to expanding type by filing and drilling up to ⅛-inch point cavities. Some danger of losing the cores of flat-base bullets is involved in this practice, but, as it happened, no jackets became stuck in the rifling. These loads would group into a 6-inch circle at 150 yards. Two deer were accidentally hit in the heart area at two-hundred yards, which is beyond the range of practical accuracy. Corporals John Hofe (Pennsylvania) and Lonnie Matthews (California) participated in the shooting and post mortems and conclusions. All three are riflemen.

For clean kills on these small animals two requirements had to be met. With expanding bullets, hits had to be confined to the 8-inch heart-and-lung area at any range (found impractical beyond 150 yards). With unaltered issue bullets, 70 per cent wounded and 30 per cent killed deer resulted from properly placed hits. Up to 150 yards, only two lung-shot deer failed to drop in their tracks. These two left blood trails and were recovered. Out of 54 deer only 11 per cent were lost when expanding bullets were used. However, the hunters did not consider the carbine to be a desirable deer rifle. As issued it failed on small deer.

Because of its protruding magazine and short pull, it was uncomfortable in all positions. The magazine catch was commonly and frequently confused with the safety, especially in the excitement of shooting deer, thus inadvertently dropping the magazine. This fault of design was frequently demonstrated in combat, darkness, etc., and it is a point of criticism among our ground forces.

Undoubtedly our .32-20, .25-20, .218 Bee, .22 Hornet, and even the lowly .22 rim fire would kill these small European deer on such well-placed hits, but that would not lift these small-game cartridges into the deer-cartridge class. As a matter of fact, Sgt. Chadwick cleanly killed one deer in Germany by perforating its shoulders with the 85-grain bullet from his .30 caliber Mauser pistol, at 60 yards.

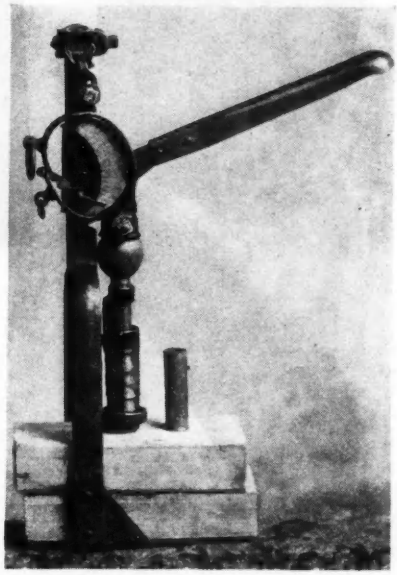
LOADING PRESSURE CONTROL. With clamp and bolts I fastened a 50-pound scale to the handle and to the top of the standard of my bottle capper, to determine the seating pressure on wads, which is important in reloading shot loads. The pocket scale I used was an arc type that is graduated to 50 pounds on one side and weighs to 300 pounds on the other side. The scale plate and pointer can be seen in the photograph. In fitting it, I removed the large ring and hook and bored a hole for the bolt through the capper. At the top, I used a link between the clamp and scales so it could be adjusted up and down. Then, all you have to do is set your handloading tool under the capper ram and, with easy pressure, seat your wad over the shotgun powder at the proper pressure required by the powder used. It is the slickest trick I have tried for avoiding uneven seating pressure, or too much, to be dangerous.—E. A. PRUET.

DO YOU HAVE A CLUE? I have two old guns entirely different from any others and unfamiliar to my numerous gun-crank friends. John Bristow, a gun fancier of this city, suggests the old rifle may be a Merrill conversion of a muzzle loader. My address is 1604 Grove Ave., Richmond, Va., and I'd welcome any dope on the guns and parts described below.

The breech block has a jointed mechanism and the number 3746 appears on the top rear of the loading part. The bottom of both barrel and receiver are stamped with the figure, 25. The rifling of the 21-inch barrel is very good and about .56 caliber. The metal overall is 27½ in.

The pistol has a 6-inch rifled barrel of about .31 caliber and a single-piece stock held by a continuous strap of thin brass, front and rear. The top of the receiver is stamped with an eagle and, "A Ruggles, Stafford (or Stamford), Conn. F. Hutchings & Co., Agents, Balt., Md." The only number, 144, appears on the octagonal portion of the barrel, also marked, "CAST STEEL." The bottom of the hammer also has the eagle and its cocking end tip is broken. It has no half-cock notch and, being under the barrel, was probably carried unprimed but loaded.—H. P. McCOY.

Above: Complete pistol, and rifle barrel breech and action submitted by H. P. McCoy. Below: Press and scale by E. A. Pruet



BEDDING KINK. In a recent issue of the Dope Bag, I noticed references to the use of paper packing between stock and barrel, in an effort to improve grouping. Packing of various kinds has, of course, been used by experimenters for many years, and the general subject of "bedding" has also been studied and discussed for a very long time.

During the long depression in the Thirties, I became interested in this subject, which is somewhat related to vibration studies in motor cars, and did a lot of experimenting with the bedding of numerous rifles, including the N. M.[1] Springfield, Winchester M52, Winchester M69, Winchester, M54, Remington M37, U. S. M1917, etc. In most cases, four to six rifles of the same model, but often with different barrels, were used and, during that period, at least one hundred thousand rounds were fired—about one-half in machine rests and the other half by several very competent riflemen using the prone position or a bench rest.

Some rifles were found much more sensitive to bedding than others, but in general it can be safely asserted that all rifles show improved accuracy when bedded to the best advantage. After many trials, I finally standardized a method that gave consistent results on all my guns and which is easy for most any shooter to follow.

With this method the fore-end is first sanded out so it clears the barrel 1/64 inch–1/32 inch all around when both tang and receiver screws have been well tightened. (I use a tang screw in the M52.) A small flat-headed screw is next inserted in the fore-end about 1½ inches from the front and adjusted to provide approximately twenty per cent more tension than is desired for the finished job. This tension (pull required to just separate fore-end and barrel) varies from four to five pounds on the Springfield to 25–35 pounds on the M54 match rifle with heavy barrel.

The fore-end should now be partially filled with plastic wood of the desired color and covered with a piece of oiled or waxed paper. Now install barrel and action in stock and carefully tighten tang and receiver screws to normal snugness. Check to make sure the space between fore-end and barrel is well filled with the plastic wood and set away to dry. This may take several days as the drying process should not be hurried by excessive heat. When thoroughly dry, disassemble and remove the small flathead screw. The thin waxed paper may be left in position if desired or removed and the new surface oiled. A little side clearance between barrel and fore-end is desirable, but a sufficient amount is usually provided by normal shrinkage of the plastic wood, which should be sanded smooth where it emerges from the top of receiver. If a barrel-to-fore-end screw is standard, it may now be installed and tightened just enough to insure that it will not be lost.

I used this method of bedding on all my match rifles with excellent results regardless of who fired them. In 1937, for example, I made eleven consecutive V's at 600 yards in the Crowell match, and in 1938 kept 20 of my 22 shots in the V-ring at 1000 yards in the Wimbledon Cup Match—both at Camp Perry. The same rifle was also used successfully by the Texas team in the Port Clinton, or Herrick trophy, match of 1937—(I forget which now)—and by the Michigan team in 1938. Frank Kahrs also shot a fine possible at 1000 yards

under very bad weather conditions using another rifle I had bedded. I think this was in the Wimbledon of 1940.

The plastic wood is soft and possibly its porosity provides an air cushion that does a better job of dampening than can be obtained from the best hand-fitted stock. The method also corrects for any warping that may have taken place since the original fitting.—C. H. VINCENT.

NOTE: In our latest packing experiment we tried two thicknesses of synthetic rubber, 1/32 and 1/64 inch. The load was 58 grains No. 4350 behind Barnes .25 caliber bullets in a short Ackley Magnum. With the thin packing the groups were reduced about an inch at 200 yards for the 90-grain bullet and fully 2 inches for the 100 grain. The spread was about 1½ inches greater with the thick packing, both used with a tight barrel band. One group tried with a loose band was slightly inferior. Results were not conclusive as only 30 shots were fired.

WEB RETICULES. From the many suggestions I have been reading in your column regarding substitutes for cross hairs in reticules, I have often wondered why the boys do not use spider web. All that is required is a friendly jeweler, who will gladly donate a jeweler's screw driver (especially if he is a gun bug), and then a stroll into any woodland where the long "fliers" will be found attached to shrubs and bushes.

For the above purpose, of course, the reticule must be the type that uses small screws for holding the cross hairs; there is a type using small eyelets that seem to be riveted, and the repair of these is beyond the amateur. When a suitable, clean-appearing, silvery strand of spider "line" is found floating in the breeze, just seize upon it and carry it to friend wife who will then separate it into its component strands, one of which will be used for the repairs. We mounted what appeared to be a splendid specimen in my Fecker game scope and, when I looked upon my work, the cross hairs had the appearance of badly worn binder twine! The long stringers are really composed of several strands, but one can be pulled away from the others and used nicely.

The four small screws are set to act as spacers, and all that is necessary is to open up each a trifle, set the spider "line" against each one, from the left, and tighten carefully. Spider filament has more "stretch" than one would imagine, and the stuff can be pulled to make a taut, perfect cross. After mounting, use acetone and a small, artist's camel-hair brush, to pick up the small dust particles adhering to the "hairs." This is a rather tedious job and requires patience, but when it is complete the resulting satisfaction is glorious to experience.

A renewed reticule in my Fecker scope has stood two years of use with no sign whatever of failure. In fact, I confess that I know of no substitute that even comes close to spider filament for repairs. Some shooters might find them entirely too fine but in my own case they have served perfectly.—PAUL GREEN.

SIDE ARM LEATHER. Before my western trip, this spring, I had toted most of my belt knives and handguns in sheaths and holsters and on belts fashioned by Hardy, Martin, and Lawrence. While not as familiar with them, I knew about other quality brands of belt-and-shoulder harness, such as Heiser, Manea, and Myres. In Denver and El Paso, I experienced the good, clean and unmistakable smell of well-tanned leather in Herman H. Heiser's and Sam D. Myres' establishments. In Kansas City, I found the police were armed with 4-inch .357 S. & W. Magnum revolvers. Captain Byron Engle and his Chief, Colonel Richard R. Foster, were carrying these police service revolvers in special pivoted holsters designed by Captain Engle. Double-action and combat-fire training are included in the curriculum of the K. C. Police Academy of which Byron Engle is the Director,

Top and Right: Personalized cartridge belt and revolver holster for the .357 S. & W. Magnum carved by Tio Sam of S. D. Myres Saddle Company, and pistol holster by Hardy

and his patented holsters must meet these and other practical police requirements. The day I was in town one of Engle's men won a gold medal with a score of 90 over the F.B.I. combat course.

This Engle holster attracted my attention because it was something new and different. Friend Byron sent one in for trial, and I am showing two cuts of it, in normal walking arrangement and unsnapped for comfort in the sitting position. It is quickly convertible and permits ready access to the weapon either way. The revolver is thrust out slightly and held at a convenient angle for quick grasping. It might be called the Engle Angle Police Holster, but isn't. Engle's original idea was to design an improved holster for uniformed policemen who wear Sam Browne belts. It can be quickly snapped on the belt, worn in low position for handy reach and draw, and yet be instantly adjusted to avoid bumping the car seat in this low position. All this has been achieved by a swivel-and-suspension arrangement. All parts are of heavy quality leather in order to insure the rigidity required for quick draw. Heavy snaps control the selected angle of the gun. A safety retaining strap and snap for securing the gun is also provided, and this strap can be held out of the way by another snap. Because of its low position and outward slant, the gun seems to ride comfortably without rubbing the ribs.

At S. D. Myres, in El Paso, Bill Myres delighted me by agreeing to make a custom carrying case for my compact Bantam Special and small Photrix exposure meter. Tio Sam, himself, delighted me even more by lending his personal attention to a personalized belt and holster for my 8¾-inch S. & W. Magnum. In the carving layout he put my name on the holster and surname on the belt. I am very proud of this outfit, including an elaborate personalized engraving job on the revolver by C. C. Agee, and have already carried

New Snap-on Adjustable Police Holster by Captain Engle

Left: As worn on duty with 4-inch S. & W. Magnum Service Revolver, and (empty) with rigid suspension back unsnapped to let holster swing free as worn in police car

and worn it on two shooting trips, to Maine and Virginia. It is not only handsome, but also practical. For such a long and heavy gun as the .357 Magnum, the belt and holster are light in weight, and the big gun rides very comfortably on my right hip. It serves as a light rifle, with my heavy handloads, and has afforded me many extra shots on game and varmints, thanks to its portability which made it available when needed. Some readers may prefer the unadorned carving without the black lacquer background, but that is a matter of taste. With this particular outfit I think it is in harmony, and like it as is.

From the late Captain Hardy I have had holsters both plain and carved, all quality products. My utility quick-draw holsters for both shoulder and belt have come from Jack Martin. From George Lawrence I have had a belt and pouch for trapshooting and skeet, axe and knife sheaths and holsters. All of these Lawrence products have been severely plain, but of the best quality. All of them, including the other quality products mentioned, have given excellent service.

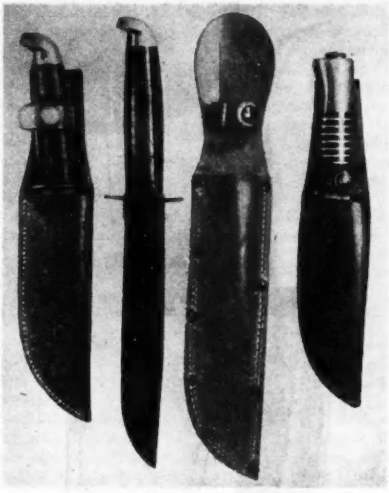
In Boulder, I saw sheath knives made by Western Cutlery Company, from blanking of the blades in a punch press to the final multiple polishing by a battery of brushes. The blades are heat-treated to a hardness of 55 Rockwell C, and yet they are tough enough to withstand deliberate bending as was demonstrated. The double-prong haft is another feature of these plain but strong knives. I bought a pair for trial and have used the heavy 8-inch one against my throwing board. Only well-made knives will withstand the punishment I gave this one. Another make of sheath knife had its handle bent and its blade broken on the very first throw. For the lighter belt knife, identical in design but smaller, the crude riveted Western sheath was replaced by a neater sewn one of Lawrence make. Personally, I prefer a folding pocketknife for game and a lighter thin-bladed knife for dressing or filleting fish.

MORE GROUNDHOG REPORTS. Arnold Barnes, Jr., killed 40 chucks in three months this year near Lewisburg, West Viriginia, all but two with the Model 19 Savage and Hi-Speeds. The longest kill was at 150 yards, and the heaviest one weighed 12 pounds.

Samuel Levin and Phil Fine do, and did for nine years, most of their chuck hunting in Carroll County, Maryland. On a vacation to Vermont they bagged 101 chucks in two weeks, shooting 12 from one position at 200 to 375 yards. The largest weighed 15 pounds, the average being 8 pounds. Their best luck in Maryland was bagging 18 in two days. Their usual shots run close to 300 yards, and they turn down chances closer than 175 yards. They use 8X Lyman, Jr., Targetspots on Model 70 Winchesters, in .220 Swift and .270 Winchester caliber, the latter with the 100-grain bullet. Another Super Grade .270 Winchester has an 8X Unertl scope. The longest shot with the .220 was 475 yards and with the .270, 440 yards. Both are well liked, but the .270 proved better for long-range shooting, especially in the wind. Ogden Knight of Baltimore loads for Sam Levin. Phil Fine handloads his own. Their new experiment this season is the .250 Ackley Magnum.

Russell Willcox hunts chucks in the Berkshires of Massachusetts. They average 8½ pounds. The biggest was 14 pounds. Most of his kills were made under 200 yards, the longest being 320 paces. With 3 weeks of this season left he has 216 in the bag. One was an almost white albino with light-brown belly and brown bands around each ankle. The eyes and tail were also brown. His present rifle is a .22-.250 Buhmiller on a Mauser action with 6X Gerard scope sight in German mounts.

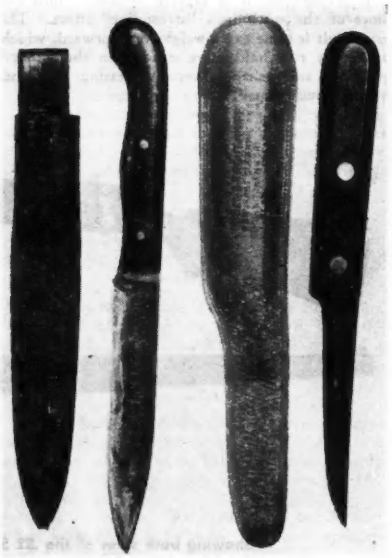
Harold Rightmyer of Ithaca, New York, has killed 3239 chucks since 1913 using various different rifles. Only a half dozen of these were as heavy as 13 pounds. The largest weighed 14¾ pounds. The heaviest annual bag was 336, made with the Model 70 .30-'06 in 1938. Only 114 were killed this year, using the Model 70 and the .22 rim fire. He uses the 110-grain .30-30 bullet with 49 grains of 3031, and only one out of two-dozen kills reach their holes. His biggest weekly kill was 66, getting up to 23 in one day with the .30-'06 and 21 with the .22. On four occasions he bagged two with one shot. His total bag also includes nine pure black chucks. In the same period he trapped 529 chucks. His wife's score, kept separately, is 52 kills for this year. In recent years he has confined his shooting to 200 yards or less in order to avoid undue wounding. He keeps records of all other varmints and game as well.



Extreme Right and Left: Two styles of knife sheaths by George Lawrence, and (middle) 8-inch heavy sheath knife by Western Cutlery Co.

Martin Coffey of Albion, New York, does his woodchucking near West Barre in the gravel hills below the southern shores of Lake Erie.

Examples of knives for dressing game fish



His best hunting was in the evening between 4:30 and 9:00 o'clock. He uses the Lyman Junior Targetspot. With the 2R Lovell in 1940 he killed 159 chucks and lost many others through misses and failures to kill. In 1941 he had a few misses, 20 wounded chucks, and 269 kills. Then the war interfered until 1944. That summer he bagged 222 with very few no-kill hits, including one evening's bag of 23 chucks, and 92 from one lot in a week of evenings. This 40-acre lot gave him 19 chucks in 40 minutes upon his first visit.

This year he used an Improved Zipper, hunted more often, had an assist from 7 X 50 B. & L. binoculars, and bagged 325 chucks. Of all wartime bullets he preferred the Sisk 55-grain and .046 graphite wad ahead of 34 grains No. 4064. The bore shows no erosion after 2500 shots. Both rifles were obtained from Hervey Lovell. Coffey gives much credit to his knee sling used in the sitting position and made from a Ford V-8 fan belt stripped of excess laminations for greater pliability. It is used around the raised knees, in conjunction with the regular sling from rifle to arm, affording a steady hold when high growth makes prone shooting impractical.

Carl R. Englund of Holmdel, New Jersey, uses the 5A Lyman on the .22 Hornet sighted an inch high at 60 yards. He finds the Hornet a better hitter and a poorer killer than the .25-20 formerly used on groundhogs. He ascribes 95 per cent of his misses to the conventional 3-pound trigger-squeeze, as chucks allow 10 seconds exposure for a shot and about half of that for the squeeze off. His chucks average 8 pounds, a few reaching 10 pounds and only one exception approaching 13 pounds. They come out in late March and hibernate in middle September. The earliest chuck seen was on March 7 and the latest on November 11. With the Hornet he has some trouble with wind allowance, and he does most of his shooting between 70 and 110 yards.

Eric Farr, who does his chucking in New Jersey, says there are a great many more in New York and far fewer in Virginia, especially between Woodstock and Harrisonburg. He progressed from the .22 Long Rifle to the .220 Swift to the .22 Hornet and, finally, to the 2R Lovell with increasing satisfaction after each shift. New Jersey chucks are out in number by April 20 and average about 8 pounds, the maxmimum weight going to 15 pounds. Under the prevailing handicaps of New Jersey, the Swift was too noisy and the Hornet was more desirable than the reduced load of 20 to 22 grains of No. 2400 with 45 to 50 grains of bullet. The Lovell was about right.

G. H. Parmenter of Beecher City, Illinois, says their chucks weigh 6 to 7 pounds, but he has weighed one as heavy as 13 pounds. With the .22 rim fire and with muzzle-loaders up to .40 caliber he found head or neck hits necessary. The Hornet, with 10.5 grains No. 4227 and 40-grain bullet, made clean kills at 200 yards, but he wanted more range and power. The Krag was a good killer up to 226 yards, bagging 256 chucks for him in 1932. His present Lovell Zipper is more effective on long-range body shots, but he is already planning a .22-250 on a Mauser action; only 35 kills up to middle September this year.

Ray Weeks of Tillsonburg, Ontario, says their chucks appear between March 4 and 21 and hole up by middle September. Farther north, to Ottawa, they come out a month later and hole up later also. He is a crow hunter who shoots an occasional long-range chuck. His bag this year was 503 crows and 96 chucks up to middle September. He is a 2R Lovell fan, but used a .22-.303 British by C. C. Meredith in which the most accurate 200-yard load was 35 grains of No. 4320 behind the 50-grain 8S bullet. It chronographed 3560 f. s. He sent me true copies of three groups fired before U. S. witnesses and under competitive conditions, one in a 15-mile wind. The 100-yard group measures one-half inch, the two 200-yard

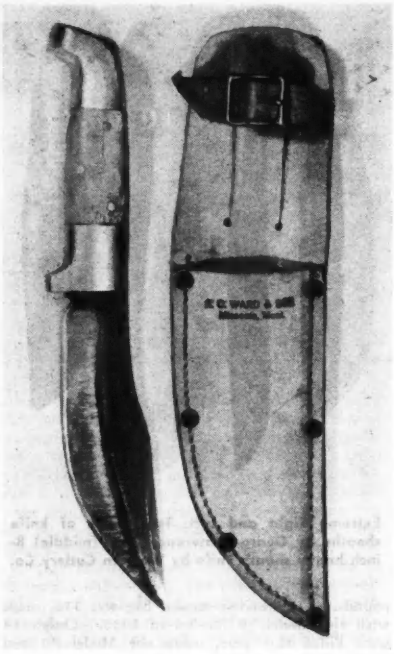
groups being under an inch. He has killed 4300 crows since 1937 (up to 29 in one day) and does not believe the small body of a crow can "be hit with satisfactory regularity at distances beyond 225 yards."

Regarding his .22-.303 Meredith as a crow rifle, he says: "The wicked crack of the bullet through the air plus the hellish plop of the bursting victim instantly convinces his friends and relatives that they had better get out fast." Regarding his preference for the 2R Lovell, Weeks says: "I have made some surprisingly long shots, but I've found farmers don't like these loud-cracking guns. Despite the superior efficiency of this cartridge, I think that, if I were obliged to shoot crows for a living in Southern Ontario, I would choose no other rifle than a really gilt-edged 2R Lovell. When using the Lovell I found that one dead crow out of a family or flock usually resulted in more shots at the mourning survivors."

We have now published reports from Missouri, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia, Maryland, New York, New Jersey, West Virginia, Massachusetts, Illinois, and Ontario, and would be glad to hear from other sections of the country.

BALLISTICS. Ray Weeks has used four barrels in his Hi-Wall Winchester S. S. and fired 16,000 shots with it. The present barrel was fired 1,000 times as a 2R Lovell, in .2225-inch groove diameter. Then it was chambered for the .22-.303 Meredith and lapped to .223 inch and throated to take a .224-inch 50-grain 8-S bullet when seated to expose one-half the cylindrical base portion. Meredith makes the case by cutting off the .303 British to a length of 1 15/16 inches and necking it. Seven dies are used for this, including neck reaming, as a tight neck fit is a feature of the chambering. Selected brass, designed for aircraft machine guns, is used for its superior quality, and not one case has been lost or deviated from perfection when finished. The neck is one-fourth inch long and the shoulder has a 28-degree slope, making it virtually a rimmed form of the Gebby Varminter. The accuracy was only good. Now it is fine. The only three groups fired with 8-S bullets were 5 shots into ½ inch at 100 yards and two such strings into less than an inch at 200 yards. The 35-grain powder load gave over 3550 f. s. at the rather moderate pressure of 40,000 pounds. This was with No. 4320. With No. 4064 the charge gave the 55-grain bullet an even 3600 f. s., while 35 grains of No. 3031 gave the 50 grain 3876 f. s., but the pressure was 47,000 pounds. A grain more of this latter powder gave 3954 f. s. at 50,000 pounds, while 36.5 grains of No. 4064 gave the 50-grain bullet 3775 f. s. at moderate pressures. The 55-grain bullet was given practically 3500 f. s. at pressures under 40,000 pounds with 34 grains of No. 4320. This was at the maximum level for lever-action repeating rifles. One at the maximum level for the Krag action was 34 grains of No. 3031 behind the 50-grain bullet which gave 3770 f. s. at 43,000 pounds. The loads with this latter powder were least accurate. Apparently, a fine ballistics cartridge and target-type job of precision chambering and case forming.

Edson W. Hall, who initiated our groundhog records, reports on the use of .046-inch graphite wads in the .30-'06 with heavy loads of No. 4350 behind the 180-grain .300 Savage bullet. Based on 57 grains of this powder without wads and a previously reported pressure of 46,200 pounds, the wad jumped pressures to 50,000 and 56,000 pounds in the only two rounds tried. Without wads, 59 grains developed 2730 f. s., even, and pressures of 50,030 and 50,050 pounds with a seating depth of .220 inch. No blown primers were had in firing 100 rounds of this heavy load in F. A. cases. Eight of these loads made a 1½-inch group at 125 yards from a Hoffman heavy-barrel rifle, and two more in Western cases enlarged the group to 2 inches.



A new hunting knife by R. C. Ward & Son

NICE STOCKING JOB. The enclosed photograph of a Springfield M2, .22 Long Rifle, may interest you.

I had long wanted a stock of Mannlicher type, so I got a nice piece of crotch walnut from D. W. Thomas, of Vineland, New Jersey, and commenced whittling. The photos do not do justice to the fine figure and coloring of the wood, but they are the best I have been able to get. (Shortage of film prevents much experimenting.)

I don't like the "toothpick" fore-end of the real Mannlicher; neither do I like the ugly bump of a semibeaver-tail as made by the factories. The grip portion of the fore-end, where it is checkered, is of true semibeaver-tail cross-section, but both fore and aft of this it is tapered smoothly into the lines of the stock in a "streamline" effect. The net result is some extra weight out forward, which made the rifle hold more steadily in the offhand position; and its appearance is pleasing (at least, to its proud "papa"!).

Drop from 50-yard line of sight (iron sights) is 1¾ x 2½ inches. (Stoeger's catalogue gives the same figures for their Krag stock; and Parker-Whelen's catalogue uses the same drop in their description of the Sedgley Springfield Sporter.) Pull is 13 inches, trigger to center of butt plate. It comes up nicely; though I think my next stock will have only 1½ inch drop at comb.

The nose cap is part of an old Krag upper band. The grip cap is ebony, grooved around the sides; inlaid in the bottom is a silver-amalgam figure of a running rabbit.

This, my third job of amateur stock-making, doesn't seem to have hurt the accuracy of the gun. Last Sunday, five consecutive 5-shot groups were fired at 62 yards, from bench rest; 10-power Fecker scope. They ranged from 7/16 to 15/16, center-to-center of widest shots, and averaged ¾ inch. The ammunition was ordinary "Kleanbore", no match-grade ammunition being available.

For the French oil finish, I followed the formula in Baker's book. (However, I found that he is too darned optimistic about the time required for drying. I had to allow twice as much time.) The rubbing to the final high gloss is not yet complete. Luckily, I had the use of a high-speed buffing-wheel, to start it. I find that about four sessions, of about 20 minutes each, with a high-speed muslin wheel, will accomplish as much as a year or two of the usual method of hand rubbing whenever you think of it. (However, use only the type of wheel which is stitched at the hub only, leaving the edges loose; the type which is stitched clear to the rim merely makes streaks.)

Based upon this experience with it, I am also going to modify Baker's formula by adding a little more spar varnish than he calls for, so as to get a better "sealing" effect. I don't want the subsequent coats of linseed oil to penetrate and darken the wood.

My experience with this Springfield M2 has been wholly favorable. I have never seen a match rifle which was less "choosy" about the ammunition you feed it. It does prefer Remington ammunition; but it will shoot the Hi-Speed Hollow Point with almost the same point of impact as standard loads. Both the Hi-Speed and many lots of ordinary Kleanbore will shoot *normal* groups as small as match ammunition, though they do show more "fliers."—B. L. COMPARET.

CORRECTION. In the October Dope Bag a somewhat serious typographical error was made under "Comments" on the bottom of page 39. When the magazine came off the presses our number, 1,275,767, correct for the switch to nickel steel at Springfield Armory, had two digits reversed, making it exactly 18,000 lower than the correct serial number. The R. I. A. switch was with 285,507.

Showing both sides of the .22 Springfield stocked by B. L. Comparet

MILITARY BOLT ACTIONS. As to relative strength and rigidity we prefer the Model 1917. It is more massive and made of tough nickel steel. A nickel steel Springfield Model 1903 and a "good" Model 1898 Mauser are less rigid for Magnum loads, but equally tough. All other old military bolt actions are inferior, or uncertain, or open to suspicion until proved by test, no matter what the make, model, year of manufacture, or serial number. The only way to determine the hardness or softness of the individual action of any date is by Rockwell or Brinell test of that individual action. Then, if it is not too hard or too soft, and if it has been fired hundreds of times with full-power or standard loads, it is probably a "good" action. Such field firing serves as a practical form of proof firing. The only reliable test for a "good" action is to proof it with a 68,000 pound proof cartridge followed by five standard loads before the long string is removed from the trigger. In place of the proof cartridge, three excessive loads (40 per cent overload) can be used with the same long string when followed by standard loads. It is better to discover an incipient flaw or weakness in that way than to endanger the person of the shooter by inadvertently wrecking the action while firing the rifle from the shoulder.

The first and most important requirement with any action is to have the head space properly adjusted. This is essential whether the action is old or new, weak or strong, "good" or otherwise. The head room of excessive breech space promotes slap or an impact of the back thrust against the bolt whose lugs communicate it to the receiver, causing brittle actions to shatter and soft lugs or seats to setback and thus aggravate the condition by increasing head space. In a "good" Mauser, or nickel steel action, or commercial action, excessive head space causes a cross rupture of the case, which head rupture releases high pressure gas at high velocity into the action, often with disastrous results. Being of superior design, both the Model 1917 and the Model 1898 Mauser handle such fugitive gases far more safely than the Model 1903 or Model 70 actions, without reference to relative strength or differences in material. Head space can be checked in the Model 1917 and Model 30 only with steel head plugs or gauges. In most other bolt actions it can be roughly checked with a disk of shim metal on the head of a new unfired case by trying to feel the additional thickness while closing the bolt. If an .003-inch shim can be felt it is probably adequately tight even for minimum cartridges. Any "good" gunsmith cannot operate without head space gauges of some kind, and all actions should be checked.

* * *

Clarence A. Hill makes a simple dovetail base for his simple ring mounts for such bolt-action rifles as the Mauser and Model 54. It is a straight bar offset at the bottom to leave a recoil shoulder for engagement with the receiver hood. The screw holes have the standard base screws and spacing and will fit most receivers already provided with scope-sight holes. The shoulder may require some adjusting, by filing, grinding, or welding, on some receivers. It was designed to hold the Weaver scope forward of the vertical Mauser-type safety. It has worked well for us and we consider it a neat and effective rig for Weaver scopes. Our only criticism is that the essential thickness or bottom projection makes loading of big belted Magnum cases a little inconvenient. The base fits on top of the receiver, anchored to bridge and hood.

* * *

H. B. Anderson of Yakima, Wash., does general gunsmithing as well as fitting gadgets. One he installed on our nickel-steel Springfield was a side safety whose small external knob operates on the right side of the receiver in the location normal for the Model 1917 side safety. It is a pivotted arm with a hook at the bottom that holds the sear arm and the trigger immovable until the hook is withdrawn by pushing the knob forward. The fit is critical, because a free fit, or a partial lap, permitting any play of the sear arm could work it clear by successive pulls on the trigger. An auxiliary arm on this safety pulls back another bent into a prepared small groove in the bolt, thus automatically locking the bolt handle down in closed position. This is a fine provision for those hunters who do not throw off the safety until they are ready to fire. The parts are small, thin, and neat. Whether they are too small to last long under continued use remains to be seen.

TRADE DOPE

John Unertl Optical Co. facilities for optical services to shooters have been expanded during the war. One of the latest additions is a lens-coating service for all makes of scopes except those that have their lenses spun in, because the firm does no soft coating. The new Unertl catalogue is already out, although his shop reconversion will not be complete until next year, and many Unertl products will not be available for several months.

* * *

The Kimball Arms Co. is out with its (thirteenth edition) catalogue featuring modern and antique weapons and sporting arms. They report a fine business and a renewed interest in old arms. The firm is even better known for its fine repair work on arms of all ages.

* * *

Fiendoil is now designed to remove metal fouling as one of its gun-cleaning jobs and it contains a lubricant and an inhibitor. The container has also been changed, to a 3-ounce can with nozzle or spout for dispensing or applying the fluid a drop at a time. New samples not tested as yet.

* * *

Mill-Rose Brushes. The Mill-Rose Company of Cleveland, Ohio, is now making their wartime cleaning brushes for civilian rifles, pistols, and shotguns. Both bristle and bronze brushes are made in all calibers and sizes. Those for the solid-frame revolvers are made shorter in order to completely clear the barrel breech before the return stroke. The samples are not only well made of quality materials but are well designed for specific individual cleaning jobs. For example, the shotgun brushes are tapered to fit the large chamber at the breech as well as the tight choke at the muzzle. They are surely worthy of a trial. See their ad.

* * *

L. H. Brown, who built the Bull Pup shown in the November Dope Bag, is prepared to furnish trigger mechanisms and stocks for these rifles as well as custom stock work and magazine work (shortening) for conventional rifles. See his ad.

* * *

Martin B. Retting has moved to larger quarters in West Hurley, six miles west of Kingston. See his ad for his new address.

* * *

Cameron Manufacturing Corp. of Emporium, Penna., has taken over the well-known, two-caliber, vertical, Jordan bench tool, and promise a greatly improved delivery service to reloaders in the near future.

* * *

T. W. Stein of Butte, Mont., offers a Scope Spot service to shooters who want a dot at the intersection of the cross hairs in their sighting reticules. The dots range, in coverage at 100 yards, from ¾ inch to 4 inches depending on the power of the scope. We have one in our Lyman and it looks clean and round. It was shipped to us in a large capsule.

J. Z. Kurpieski of Medford, Oregon, makes a Dot Reticule of spider-web cross hairs. The three grades are coarse, medium, and fine, or any variations of these to order, from "invisible" to medium fine. The dot sizes are also made to order. No samples seen as yet, but we are having one installed in our 330 Weaver.

* * *

Woodford Manufacturing Co. of Lyndhurst, Ohio, is back with their Muzzle Caps, now made of oil-resisting Neoprene and sold in two sizes, one for shotguns and bull guns and a smaller size for pistols and rifles.

* * *

Swain Nelson Company of Glenview, Ill., has developed a two-part optical sight of unconventional design for the breech of shotguns. It may be adapted for rifles and pistols also. The rear prism projects a large circle with center dot in the field of the large front lens, the dot representing the pattern. The whole sight occupies the space of a hunting scope.

* * *

Al Freeland is anxious to clear up some confusion regarding the price of his Freeland Deluxe Offset Tripod for spotting scopes, which has remained unchanged. The difference lies solely in another make, by Argus, and he asks advertisers to accurately call the more-expensive Argus tripod a Freeland Type in order to distinguish it from the genuine Freeland.

* * *

James E. Serven of Santa Ana, Calif., has acquired several complete and well-known arms collections. There will be no catalogue until the paper shortage ends. He formerly issued an illustrated one.

* * *

W. D. Wallace, manager of Wallace Tool and Engineering Co. of Belleville, Mich., says the firm is prepared to produce parts or assemblies for gunsmiths or manufacturers requiring an assist from their lathes, mills, and drill presses.

* * *

Calvin Goddard, who has helped many shooters and cartridge collectors in the past, says he has definitely discontinued dealing in single cartridges. He suggests, as a substitute source for less than complete collections, Carl Metzger, 2305 Canton St., Dallas 1, Texas.

* * *

Moffat & Jewett. E. L. Jewett of Burbank, Calif., sent us a form letter on forming cases for customers from .30-'06 brass. Calibers in preparation are: .270 Winchester, 8mm. Mauser, 7mm. Mauser, .256 Newton, and 6.5mm. Calibers ready are: .22-250, .250 Savage, .300 Savage, and .257 Roberts. He says, Money Orders and checks should be made out to him until C. G. Moffat is back in the firm definitely. Moffat has now returned to Burbank, after discharge from the Service, but he may set up his own shop and become disassociated from the case-forming business. Watch for their forthcoming ads.

* * *

Handee Grinder. It is pleasing to learn that the Handee hand tool and the small grinding wheels for it are again available for gunsmiths, mechanics, and the home workshop.

* * *

Segal's Gunhouse is the new name of the firm who formerly advertised as Segal-Consort Co. The latest item submitted by this Miami firm was a small light waterproof compass with a sealed transparent plastic cover on a brass base. I carried it in my shirt pocket on a trip to Maine, and it worked well when needed, remaining unobtrusive and forgotten in the meanwhile, because it is thin and light. Also it is handy and convenient because it requires no obscuring cover or container.

THE ARMS CHEST

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

1. Transactions Based on Good Faith: ARMS CHEST transactions are based on good faith and mutual satisfaction. Deliberate misrepresentation, disregard of usual business ethics or the attempt to circumvent these general requirements, when brought to our attention, will result in refusal of further advertising and might result in disbarment from the NRA in the case of members.

2. All Orders Subject to These Conditions: WE reserve the right to edit all copy to conform with our standards and to reject or discontinue any advertisement which we consider undesirable.

3. Who May Advertise: The ARMS CHEST is an open market trading post. Any individual or firm whose advertisement and methods of doing business meet our requirements may advertise their goods or services.

4. Rates: All classified advertisements must be accompanied by remittance. The rate is 15 cents per word including name and address—minimum charge $2.00.

5. "For Sale" Ads Must State Price: A specific price must be stated on all FOR SALE ads—except that the phrase "write for catalog" may be used when listing real estate or merchandise in quantities.

6. Firearms for Sale or Trade Must Be Defined: The *condition* of every gun (including essential parts) advertised for sale or trade, *must* be specified according to *NRA standards*, as follows: PERFECT—meaning factory condition; EXCELLENT—meaning new condition, implying negligible amount of use; VERY GOOD—meaning practically new condition, implying little use, with no appreciable bore wear and only minor surface scratches or wear; GOOD—meaning moderate use with some finish worn off, only moderate bore wear, with no pits and nothing worse than a little roughness in the bore; FAIR—meaning no parts missing necessary to use of gun, reasonable wear inside and out, nothing worse than minor pits in steel or stock, gun sufficiently accurate for hunting. POOR—meaning marred appearance and pitted or badly worn bore.

7. Non-Specific Phrases Barred: Phrases such as "highest" or "top prices paid," as well as any other so-called "auction-type" phrases are not acceptable. The terms "fair price paid" or "state price wanted" may be used.

8. Blind Ads Not Acceptable: Box number or blind ads will not be accepted. Give your complete name and address, to insure prompt delivery of all mail or telegraph replies.

9. Requesting Privilege of Examination: We *insist* that purchasers desirous of examining merchandise before acceptance request shipment by express C.O.D. with examination privilege. This procedure permits the purchaser to inspect the merchandise *in local express office* and authorizes the express company to return unsatisfactory merchandise at shipper's expense.

10. How to Count Numerals, Etc.: Groups of figures are counted as one word (example: .30-30, 250-3000, $150.00, $1.50). Abbreviations consisting of initials or single characters likewise are counted as one word (example: W. H. Smith; H.B., meaning heavy barrel; HP., meaning highpower). Hyphenated words are counted as two words (examples: 20-gauge, pearl-handled, no-slip).

11. "Outlawed" Firearms Defined: The sale of certain firearms is outlawed by Federal law unless handled by a Federally licensed dealer. These include machine or submachine guns; sawed-off rifles and shotguns with barrels of less than 18" and Mauser and Luger auto pistols *with holster stocks*.

12. Responsibility for Illegible Copy: Type or print advertisement plainly, as we can not be responsible for errors due to illegible writing.

13. Closing Date: The closing date of all advertisements is the 5th of the month preceding month of issue.

FOR SALE

P.38 AUTOMATIC PISTOL, GERMAN OFFICER'S model, excellent condition, $95.00. Public Sport Shops, Dept. R-75, 13 S. 16th St., Phila., Penna.

PERFECT LATE K-22. $45.00. FRANK R. WALlace, 30 No. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, Penna.

.257 AND .270 ULTRA SPEED BULLETS IN 87 to 125 grain weight in .257 caliber, 100 to 150 grain in .270 caliber, $5.00 per hundred, prepaid. Roy E. Weatherby, 8823 Long Beach Blvd., South Gate, Calif.

S&W REGULATION POLICE .38, HOLSTER, V.G. little surface wear, minor nick outside barrel, $45.00. E. J. Kohnfelder, 123 Stanton Courts West, Pittsburgh 1, Penna.

NEW LIST OF MUZZLE LOADING RIFLES, also cap and ball revolvers for shooting, 3¢ stamp please. Kimball Arms Company, Woburn, Mass. tf

GUN GIFT! GET "THE GUN DIGEST," America's greatest gun book sensation, Ideal Christmas gift for gun amateurs and experts, not a catalog or pocket handbook—but the largest, most complete, reliable, authoritative volume on guns ever published, every current U. S. rifle, shotgun, handgun, fully described (including detailed specifications), crammed with how, why, when and where of hunting and shooting direct from 14 gun experts. 164 pages! 25 sections! 629 brilliant illustrations! Treasure house of gun information, solves new gun buying problems; answers every question about guns. Only $1.00 (plus 10¢ for mailing). Money Back Guarantee. Klein's Sporting Goods, 503E South Halsted, Chicago 7.

COLT AUTO, .45 ARMY TWO, S&W M17, .45, S&W .38 Special 5" barrel $50.00 each, Hi-Standard auto .22, MB 4½" barrel, $40.00, Savage auto .32, $25.00, all above excellent, H&R .38, like S&W hammerless pocket, very good, $20.00. R. L. Beal, 903 N. E. 72nd Avenue, Portland 16, Oregon.

WHITE LINE RECOIL-PADS $3.00, WHITE-LINE rifle pads, $1.75, Argus Super spotting scopes $74.50, Freeland stands, $8.50. Flaig's, Millvale, Penna.

VERY GOOD 26" HEAVY BARREL KRAG TARget, Sporting stock, peep rear, gold bead front, made by Howe wt. 9¾ lbs, price $100.00. Ries, 10465 Carnegie, Cleveland, Ohio.

SPRINGFIELD #94 12 GA. SINGLE BARREL, new $11.25 OPA $8.34, complete with full length carrying case and 50 shells, $12.35, Springfield #311 12 ga. double barrel $29.35, new OPA $22.00; complete with full length carrying case and 50 shells, $26.00, above guns purchased from U. S. sold as used but never shot, perfect in and out. Jim Craton's, 221 Harrison, Davenport, Iowa.

.44 SPECIAL LOADS, EXHAUSTIVE TABULAtion of 650 tested handloads for .44 Special, "Handgun Cartridge #1," limited, numbered edition, $1.00 postpaid. 44 Associates, Auburn, Mass.

DOUBLE BARREL RIFLE, 11¾MM. ENGRAVED, fair, $65.00, Magnum 12 gauge Fox, HE grade, double 32" barrels FF, automatic ejectors, excellent, $75.00, 500 Winchester 115 primers, NMNC, LR, $6.00, 199 bullets, F.A., noncannulured, 172 grains, .30 caliber with 600 primers, L.R. F.A. 70, $10.00. Norton Bowler, Warren, Penna.

EXCELLENT MARLIN .22 BOLT ACTION CLIP repeater $13.95. Arnold Hyman, 645 Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

LARGE ASSORTMENT MODERN & ANTIQUE shotguns, rifles, pistols, Kentucks, Schuetzens, Colts, S&W's in latest big list, send for stamps. Gunroom, Homer, N. Y.

KRAG 22" BARREL, RICE PEEP REAR, GOOD, $30.00, Krag long rifles, accessories, good, $30.00, Nazi Mauser 8mm. rifle, good to very good, $45.00, Walther P.38, very good, $75.00, Polish Radom 9mm. very good, $75.00, Sauer double action .32 automatic, Nazi Hungarian Frommer. 32 automatic, Nazi Czech .32 automatic, all very good, $65.00 each, Nazi Belgian Browning .32 military automatic, very good, $42.50, 9mm. Luger 8" barrel, Mauser 7.63mm. military automatic, good to very good, $55.00, Each; 52 page catalog antique and modern guns 25¢. Christmas supplement 125 new guns 15¢. New Address. Martin Retting, West Hurley, N. Y.

WINCHESTER 52 HB, MARBLE GOSS REAR, Redfield front, excellent, sheepskin case, B&L NRA, scope, 10X coat, Kit 600 rounds ammunition $200.00. W. H. Willson, 25 Laurel Place, Newark, N. J.

WINCHESTER MODEL 57 WITH WEAVER 344 scope with Litchert attachment and Lee Dot very good, $60.00, Colt Woodsman 6" custom stocks, for regular ammunition only, very good $45.00, Model C Hi-Standard 4½", very good $35.00. Sam Phelps, Bloomfield, Iowa.

FOR SALE—MUZZLE CAPS NOW MADE OF oil resistant Neoprene, use Muzzle Caps and shoot safely always, endorsed by shooters everywhere, 35¢ dozen postpaid, for rifle or shotgun, state which. Woodford Manufacturing Co., Lyndhurst, Ohio.

PATENT PROTECTION. INFORMATION AND Invention Record Free. Randolph & Beavers, 370 Columbian Bldg., Washington, D. C. 12-45

USE THE NEW GAS PROOF GUN WAD FOR mild recoil close even pattern unusually long range $4.00 per M. packed in 1000 lots, 500-3½", 250-3½C, 250 thin C, send remittance. E. G. Snyder, Rt. #2, Reading, Penna. tf

MUZZLE GUN SUPPLIES: SEVERAL FLINT and percussion rifles ready to be described—targets and loading data supplied, nipples now in stock, pistol in .225-32 size, fit most Civil War handguns, ¼-28 size for rifles and shotguns, musket in .317-24, .237-28, .287-28, and .311-28 for guns requiring odd sizes, price, $1.00 for five, size .317-24 for musket, worked down to take the #11 cap, 60¢ each. We handle #11 percussion caps, 1000 for $2.85 f.o.b. We keep a good stock of black powder, $4.00 for a 6¼ pound can, f.o.b. No Bureau of Mines License required now. Reprint Gunsmith's Manual in stock now, $4.00. N&W RLY. YMCA. E. M. Farris, Gen'l Secy., Portsmouth, Ohio.

CASWELL TARGET CARRIERS GIVE THE shooter every possible point because they hold the target steady and require no exertion to operate; fully equipped with speedy ball-bearing pulley wheels and target holders for every type of indoor paper rifle or pistol targets. Government Priority not required. Caswell Target Carriers, Anoka, Minnesota. tf

MODEL 54, WINCHESTER 30-06, LYMAN 48 scope blocks, scope, sling and swivels, recoil pad, case, shells, excellent, $130.00, model 99, Savage 250-3000, box shells, scabbard, excellent, $80.00, H&R .38 revolver new, box shells, holster, $35.00, box .32 Remington automatic shells, $2.25. Vincent Poskin, Onarga, Illinois.

GUNS, MODERN, ANTIQUE, ALL KINDS, AMmunition, loading tools and supplies, list 10¢. Geo. Brullesauer, 3957A Castleman, St. Louis 10, Missouri. 1-46

16 GA. 21 WINCHESTER, TRAP GRADE, SKEET model except 26" barrels bored IC&M, pistol grip stock, Beavertail, ejectors, SST, perfect $150.00, including case and six boxes shells, 22LR Stevens Armory with Lyman receiver sight, excellent to perfect, $25.00 including six boxes cartridges. R. P. Anthonisen, 259 Second St., San Francisco 5, California.

GEWEHR 98 RIFLES, LESS STOCKS, NEW $50.00, Zeiss Super Ikonta model A, Novar F:3.5, good, $100.00, Hensoldt 7x56 Nacht-Dialyt binoculars, excellent, $200.00. William M. Abbott, Box 185, Wilton, N. H. Member.

$100.00 AND UP, NEW CUSTOM BUILT VARmint rifles, K-Hornets, K-Lovells and K-Zippers, will take actions in trade, send self addressed envelope for descriptions. Lysle D. Kilbourn, Whitesboro, New York.

PRIMERS; CARTRIDGES, 30-06, .35 WHELEN, .45 auto, .38, others, list. Julian Garrett, Otley, Iowa.

MAUSER PISTOL OBERNDORF CALIBER 7.63 mm. very good, 5½" barrel $125.00, Mauser pistol Oberndorf caliber 9mm. Luger very good, 5½" barrel $125.00, Mauser pistol Oberndorf caliber 7.63mm. good except two small bulge's in barrel, 5½" barrel, with shoulder stock holster $50.00. Winchester carbine 20" barrel poor $5.00. R. H. Hammack, 410 South 11th, Clinton, Oklahoma.

WADS FELT ¼", 10, 12, 16 & 20 GAUGE $2.90 per 1,000. Clarence Fell, 4114 Monroe, Kansas City, Missouri.

20 SHOT MAGAZINE FOR 30-06 SPRINGFIELD $5.50. B. K. Wingate, 470 Parkway, Trenton, N. J. 12-45

SWAP GUNS, OR GET SPOT CASH! WE PAY more, sell for less, large selection of bargains in new and used rifles, shotguns, handguns, send 25¢ (refundable with first order) for "Guaranteed Bargain Catalog" and Swap list of new and used guns. Klein's Sporting Goods, 503TE South Halsted, Chicago 7.

MODEL 70, 30-06 SUPER GRADE NEAR PERfect, 330 scope with post, Stith mounts. 48 WJS. 60 factory loads, $170.00. J. E. Wade, Millfield, Ohio.

"I'll tell the world I was there!"

Every time you meet a "buddy", you'll fight the battles of World War II all over again.

Modesty won't permit you to say much about those decorations you received; but—you can wear these, and your service ribbons, in miniature, on the lapel of your coat.

Shown here are BLACKINTON miniature medals, service and decoration bars now available. Discharge buttons, too. Made by the oldest name in insignia manufacture.

Order now, at the prices shown. Send copies of certificates and serial numbers with your order.

Prices

Miniature medals, each	**$2.25**
Enameled lapel service and decoration bars, each	**.30**
Discharge buttons	
Brass, each	**.30**
1/20-10K, gold-filled, each	**.60**
10K solid gold, each	**3.75**
14K solid gold, each	**5.00**

Add 20% to above prices to pay U. S. Tax

Dept. R-11

V. H. BLACKINTON & CO. **Attleboro Falls, Massachusetts**

GIANT CHINCHILLA RABBITS. VALUABLE fur. Delicious Meat. Easily Raised. Pleasant Pastime. Tremendous Demand. Small Investment. Large Profit. Willow Farm, R82, Sellersville, Pa. tf

.257 ROBERTS CUSTOM BUILT AND ENgraved on Mauser action, 330 Weaver and Lyman 48, a beautiful gun, excellent, $250.00, Savage 23D K-Hornet, B mounts, and loading components, excellent, $55.00. Edward Anderson, 711 Madison St., Villa Park, Illinois.

FACTORY CARTRIDGES, CEILING PRICES, .22 Hi-power Savage, 303 Remington. 7mm. Mauser, .32 Remington Express, Theodore Davis, Kinards, So. Carolina.

37 REMINGTON #03414, VERY GOOD, STANDard sights with sheepskin case, B&L 19.5X spotting scope with sheepskin case and tripod, shooting coat size 40, shooting kit, ground cover, trigger shoe, staynless cleaning rod, shooting glove, cartridge block, stapler, 1000 rounds 22, etc., all for $180.00. Geo. P. Bassett, Box 576, Winter Haven, Florida.

LUGER 9MM, GOOD $53.00, MONEY ORDER please. R. W. Lee, Route #2, Morgantown, W. Va.

REWARD—CASH OR GUNS FOR YOUR HELP in locating purchaseable Antique Firearms Collections. Prompt, honorable dealing. James Serven, Santa Ana, Calif. tf

REVOLVERS, MINERALS, STAMPS, COINS, glass, Indian relics, catalog 5¢. Cowboy Lemly, Las Cruces, New Mexico. tf

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS COMPANY, IPCO REloading Lubricants: IPCO colloidal graphite ribbon wads $1.00 per box, IPCO bullet lubricant $1.00 per box, Special discount to dealers. W. W. Perkins, Prop. Box 14, Wakefield, Mass. tf

THE REVOLVER TIMING RECORD—A 10-INCH RCA-Victor phonograph record, practice timed and rapid fire anywhere, by yourself, nothing to watch, just listen, for dry shooting, basement and outdoor ranges, one side 10 second timing, other side 20 second timing, plays on any phonograph, $1.50 postpaid. The Original Sight-Exchange, Box J. Paoli, Penna. 2-46

ILLUSTRATED 145 PAGE CATALOG OF ANtique firearms and edged weapons 25¢. Robert Abels, 860 Lexington Ave., New York 21, New York. 1-46

20 PAGE CATALOG, LISTING ANTIQUE FIREarms, edged weapons, cartridges, tools, parts, books and collectors items for 15¢. H. A. Brand, 1008 Ingalls Bldg., Cincinnati 2, Ohio. 7-46

AMMUNITION .45-70-500 SMOKELESS, $1.64 per box, $8.00 per hundred, packing charge 10¢ per box. No C.O.D. shipments. L. L. Bolin, Dept. R, 9 Grand St., South Amboy, N J. tf

SCOPES, MOUNTS, GUNS, RELOADING TOOLS, powder, bullets, latest Ideal handbooks, postpaid 50¢. Catalog 10¢. Louis Rinquette, Grants Pass, Oregon. 1-46

MUZZLE GUN SUPPLIES: #11 PERCUSSION caps, 1000 for $2.85 FOB, black powder 6¼ pounds for $4.00, FOB, No bureau of mines license required now. Several tested flint and percussion rifles ready to sell, $37.50 to $125.00. Powder Measure-Charger (for black powder only) zero to 100 grains, $3.50. Colt and Remington pistol nipples, 5 for $1.00, rifle and shotgun nipples (¼"-28 thread) 5 for $1.00, small caliber hickory ramrods, 75¢, over .45 caliber $1.00, "For Beginners Only," a booklet designed to help beginners in muzzle gun game. Other gun publications. Reprint Gunsmith's Manual in stock now, $4.00. E. M. Farris, N&W YMCA, Portsmouth, Ohio. tf

FINE RARE COLT DRAGOONS, OTHER CAP and ball revolvers, also long antique guns, list 10¢ in stamps. E. C. Ward, Suite 406, Wilcox Bldg., Los Angeles 12, California. 1-46

INDIAN RELICS, CONFEDERATE BILLS, coins, minerals, gems, fossils, crystals, illustrated catalog 5¢. 100 ancient arrowheads $3.00. H. Daniel. Hot Springs, Ark. tf

RIFLE CLUBS' SPECIAL PRICES ON ALL OFficial N.R.A. Tournament Targets. T. G. Crain, 919 Millville Road, Altoona, Pennsylvania. 12-45

SPECIAL SALE GENT'S ALL LEATHER WRISTwatch straps, tan, black, mahogany and light pigskin, one dozen to display card, retail tag, $2.00, Dealer's price $6.50 per dozen, orders shipped within 24 hours on receipt of check, no COD's. Leather Specialties, 1840 Gladstone St., Philadelphia 45, Penna.

CROW CALLING—25,000 WORD INTRODUCtion to the world's fastest shooting sport, splendid Christmas gift for shooters $1.50 each, four for $5.00. Popowski, 3408 Jones, Omaha, Nebraska. 12-45

NEW SINGLE SPECIMEN LIST #9 FOR THE collector, 10¢ coin or stamps. Carl Metzger, 2305 Canton St., Dallas 1, Texas. 12-45

RIDING AND TRAINING A COMPLETE BOOK covering all types of riding horses at a price anyone can afford, for Free literature write Earl Farshler, Old Stage Rd., Salinas, California.

30-06 METAL PATCH F.A. LATE ISSUE RIFLE cartridge $10.00 per 100. Percussion caps, #11, $2.50 per 1000. Recoil pad, rubber slip-on type, U. S. Govt. for rifle, shotgun $1.00. Rifle slings, U. S. Army regulation 1¼" leather, good condition, 75¢. 10,000 rifle slings, U. S. Army, 1¼" Webbing, good condition 49¢. Forward money with order. No COD shipments, Public Sport Shops, Dept. R-75, 13 So. 16th St., Philadelphia, Penna.

FOR SALE—SOLID BRASS CLEANING ROD, brand new .22 cal., machined tip for patch or brush, 65¢, finest phosphor bronze bristle brush 15¢ extra, 2 for 25¢, all postpaid, quantity prices on request. Woodford Manufacturing Co., Lyndhurst, Ohio.

FOR SALE—WINCHESTER M70, .270, PERFECT in, excellent out, with Weaver 330 scope mounted low and sighted in 200 yds, Whelen sling, sheeplined case and 20 rounds 130 grain factory, $150.00. Also L.C. Smith, Ideal grade, 16 ga. perfect, full & modified, single trigger, auto. ejection, 28" barrels, engraved, a beautiful gun, $150.00. Also Colt Woodsman, .22 6½" barrel, excellent, leather holster, 250 rounds LR 22, $50.00. Also binoculars, Wollensack, 8x30, excellent, light weight, individual eye focus, leather case, $50.00. Also Outboard, Evinrude, very good, 1 HP, 1 cyl., little used, $40.00. Will ship any item on receipt of 10% of purchase price balance C.O.D. with exam. privileges. G. O. Covington, 518 Margaret Drive, Silver Spring, Maryland.

MAUSER BIG GAME RIFLE, 10.75MM, 560 rounds, excellent inside, good outside, $210.00, Sauer 8mm. Sporter, very good, $125.00. Whelpley, 77 Mountain Road, New Haven, Connecticut.

WESTERN .38 SPECIAL 158 GRAIN LUBALOY $1.66, Remington .146 grain wadcutters $1.44, sold only in equal amounts. Jim Craton's, 221 Harrison, Davenport, Iowa.

KRAG SPORTER, RAMP FRONT, PACIFIC rear, checkered grip and forearm, excellent $65.00, 30-06 reloading dies $15.00, money order. Wanted—Perfect Match Target Woodsman with holster $50.00 limit. Carl Eversole, Richmond, Kentucky.

SURE WE TRADE!

We're glad to say we are again getting some merchandise in quantity so we can add the old familiar "Sure We Trade" to advertising. Trades pending for future delivery on Lyman Alaskans. We make immediate delivery on Argus spotters and Weaver hunting scopes. Tell us what you have—what you want!

HUNTING SCOPES & MOUNTS

While we have a large stock of all Weaver models and mounts at this writing, we are behind in Alaskan deliveries—order now for future delivery or trade.

NEW LYMAN Alaskan 2½X, coated lenses, "All-Weather" adjustments, leather caps, choice of 7 reticules $50.00
Weaver #440S-post or X-wire 35.20
Weaver #330S-post, X-wire or Post 29.70
Weaver 1X, X-Wire with Dot 20.35
G & H Double-Lever Mount (specify rifle). 25.00
Stith Mounts 12.00
Redfield Jr. Mounts—Weaver 9.50
Weaver "B" Mounts 6.60
Weaver "T" Mounts 2.20
Dust caps (Leather) for Weaver 1.30

SHOOTING MATS

"Ta-pat-co" Deluxe, 30" wide at top, flared out at bottom, Non-slip pad. Heavy waterproof cloth on bottom, rolls compactly, buckle fastener. Postpaid $9.95

WINCHESTER M/52 RIFLES

We are getting a few; better order now and get on our waiting list. Pre-war prices!

.22 L.R. AMMUNITION

No restrictions—limited quantity—order only what you need NOW—give second brand choice. Per 1000 ..... $6.80

METALLIC SIGHTS

It's hard to list the sights we will have by the time you read this ad! More models are coming thru every day. To be sure, drop a card asking for our "Headliner"—we'll have the ones listed and more!

Lyman 48 for Springfield, Mauser, Krag, Win. 54 & 70, price (postpaid) without disc $11.00, with disc $11.50. Lyman 48Y (Sav. 19 & 23) $13.00
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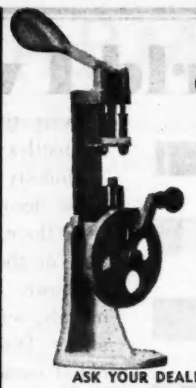

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GENUINE DOUBLE ACTION MILITARY pocket Mauser mod. "HSc" holster, 2 clips, 1 box cartridges, excellent, $85.00. T. A. Fegers, Hallandale, Florida.

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G&H ENGRAVED GUN: MAUSER ACTION, CAL. 25 Roberts, Circassian walnut stock, gold name plate, engraved ramp, front sight with hood, detachable sling swivels, Zeiss Zeilklein scope, G&H scope, mount with engraved blocks, Lyman 48 micrometer sights, excellent, $350.00. Mrs. A. J. Kitz, 5601 4th St., N. W., Washington 11, D. C

WINCHESTER HEAVY 52 MARKSMAN, MARBLE Goss, Lyman 77, excellent, $70.00. D. E. Jacoby, Logan, Ohio.

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J. P. SAUER DOUBLE 12 GA. HIGHLY ENgraved, 28½ Krupp barrels, M&F, auto ejectors, two triggers, stock 2¼ drop, weight 6 lb., 9 oz., this gun is new, never fired, price $225.00. J. C. Hooker, Harrisburg, Illinois. Member.

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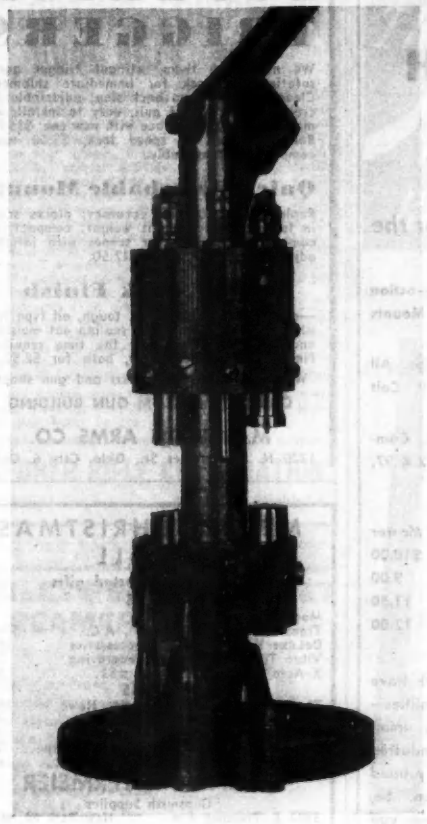

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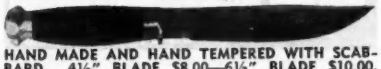

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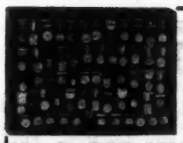

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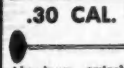

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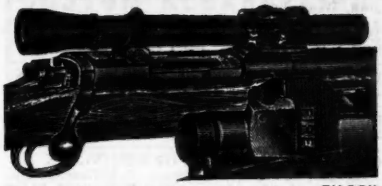

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WANTED— HENSOLDT DIALYTAN 4X FEATHerweight scope. State condition and price. Claude G. Kaelin, Buhl, Idaho. tf

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FOR SALE—HENSOLDT DIALYTAN 4X, NEW, factory condition, never mounted, serial #61610, price, $155.00. Argus spotting scope, standard grade, new, factory condition, $60.00. Lyman Alaskan All-weather, new, factory condition, $50.00. M. E. Hutton, 222 South Mariposa Ave., Los Angeles 4, California.

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY: 7X, 50MM. BAUSCH & Lomb "Navy" binoculars, brand factory new, $162.00 plus $32.40 tax. Total $194.40 with case, see October RIFLEMAN, B&L advertisement, page 1, for details. Henry Adams, authorized B&L representative, Box 114, Centerville, Iowa. Life Member. (B&L Ray-Ban shooting glasses available from me December 15th.)

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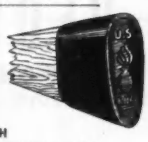

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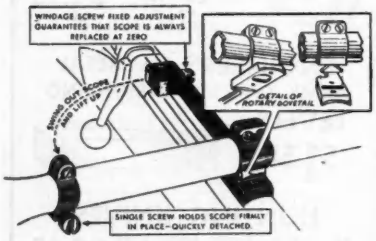
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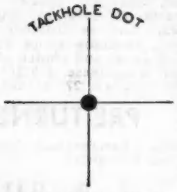

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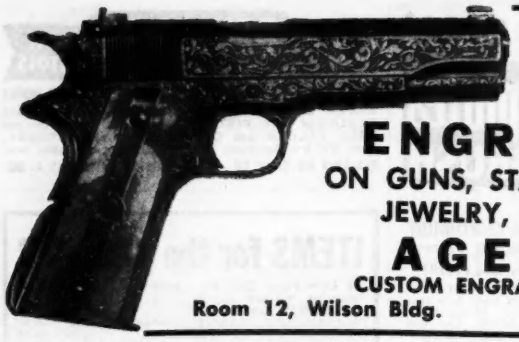

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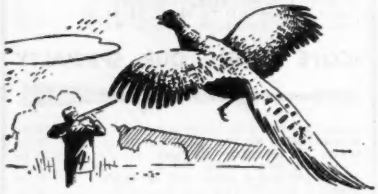

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FOR SALE—SCOPES, NEW PRISMATIC SPOTTING, with 2" objective lens, giving clear small caliber spotting at 100 yards, inspection privileges, c.o.d. $52.50. Edgar Haber, 8 Pinto Ave., San Francisco, California.

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FOR SALE—K-22 MASTERPIECE, SPECIAL stocks excellent in, nearly excellent out, 3000 rounds ammunition $100.00. C. A. Bly, 415 E Street, Needles, Calif.

GUN REBLUING $3.00 TO $8.00, WRITE STATing make, model for specific prices, reservations appreciated. Les' Gun Shop, Lester O. Bauska, Rt. #2, Box 29, Kalispell, Montana.

FOR SALE—MAUSER SPORTER, NEW 30-06 barrel, Redfield micrometer rear, shells, $75.00. J. Floyd Long, Collinsville, Illinois.

WINCHESTER 70 30-06 BARREL ON MAUSER 98 action (Serbian 1924) unaltered, very good, no stock or sights, $50.00, Austrian Steyr Straight pull carbine, good or better, $30.00, Walther P38, holster, spare clip, excellent, $80.00, custom Mauser, 30-06, 330 on Jr. mounts, beautiful stock, ebony trimmed, as new, $165.00. E. W. Robbins, Milford, Mass.

FOR SALE—WINCHESTER 52, MARBLE-GOSS rear, Parker front, very good, $60.00; B&L .65mm. spotting scope, tripod, $77.50. C. L. Jackson, 67 Luckie, N. W. Atlanta, Georgia.

FOR SALE—ENFIELD SPORTER 30-06, EXCELlent inside, good out, 24" barrel, Stoeger stock checking fair, 29S Weaver post reticule, $75.00. Herbert Wells, 421 Broad, Charleston, W. Va.

FOR SALE—CANVAS WATERPROOFING COMpound, renew tents and tarpaulins, apply brush, Olive drab $1.00 gallon postpaid. H. E. White, 3133 Fairfax, Cleveland 18, Ohio.

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WANTED—FOR RETURNED OFFICER, RIFLEman for March, July, November, 1944, January, May 1945. Floyd LeVan, 793 Van Rensselaer, Niagara Falls, N. Y.

FOR SALE—WINCHESTER MODEL 63 AUTOmatic, excellent, Weaver 29S scope, 500 rounds, $50.00. A. N. Pirson, 165 Laird Ave., Buffalo 7, N. Y.

FOR SALE—70 WINCHESTER 30-06 ALASKAN All-Weather scope #5 reticule coated lens, Redfield mounts, pad, sling and sheepskin case, excellent, $190.00. O. S. Larson, 378 South 11th East, Salt Lake City, Utah.

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FOR SALE—WINCHESTER 70 PERFECT, K-Hornet chamber and bolt checkering by G&H, Redfield Junior, Weaver 440 excellent, walnut cheekpiece, sling, 115 cases, 1000 primers 116, 1000 prewar Lubaloy bullets, $170.00. loaded cartridges available. K. Feeney, 1725-63 Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

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WANTED—S&W OR KING REAR REVOLVER sights, caliber 35, Remington rifle barrel inside excellent 50 caliber Remington pistol. R. B. Wilson, Delta, Colorado.

FOR SALE—COLT .38 POLICE SPECIAL 6" H.B. excellent $55.00. Earl Sandbek, 3135 Chesley Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

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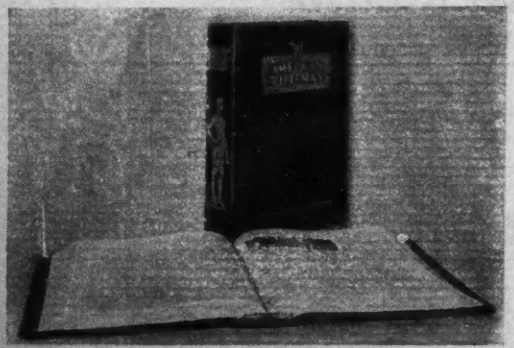

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Date_____

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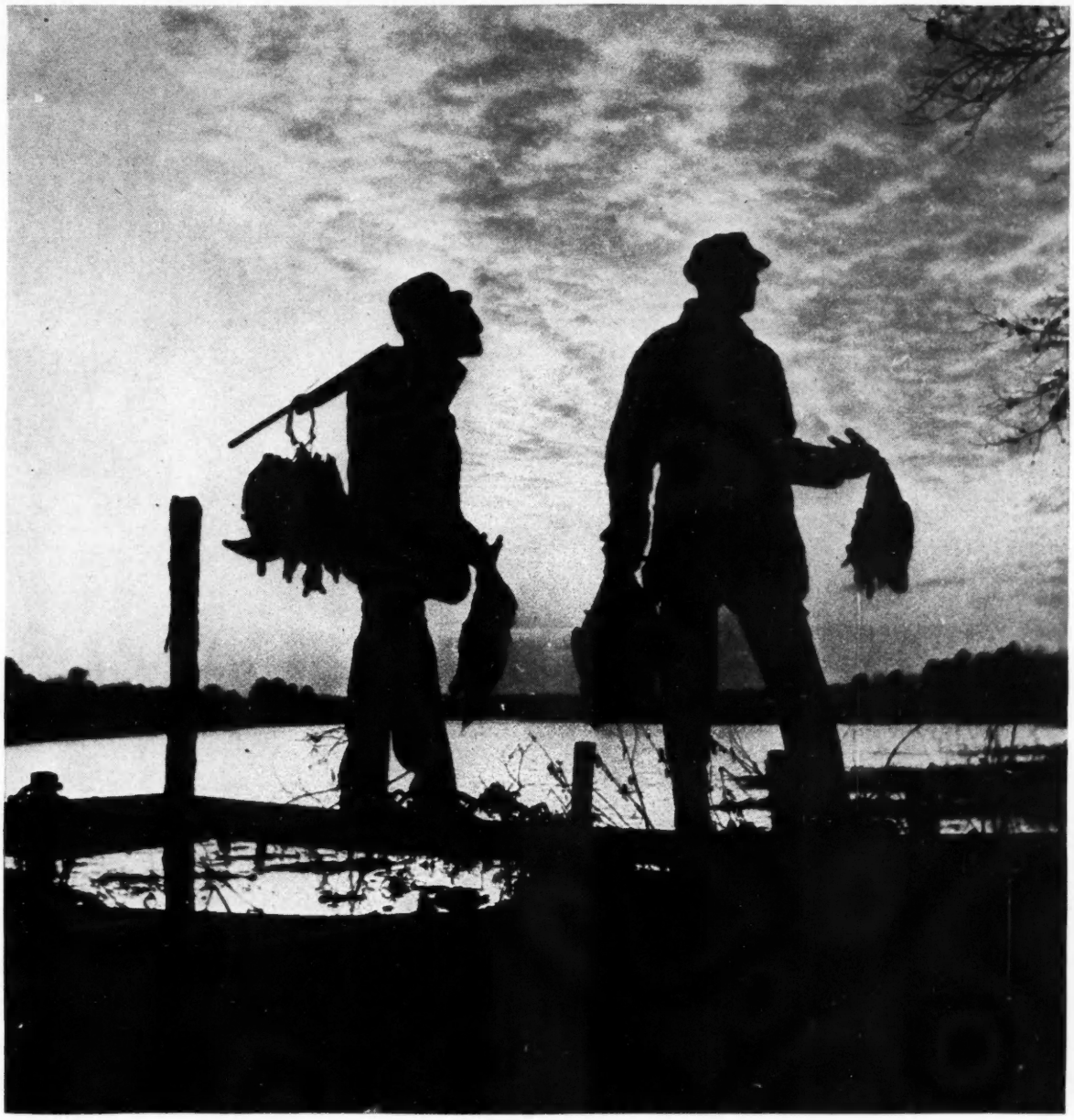

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